

Tomorrow

Next week will see the start of the first-ever public inquiry in this country into the merits and possible dangers of a drug. The product is Depo-Provera, an injectable contraceptive which is said to be as effective as the pill but which some authorities claim can be misused and might have unacceptable side-effects in certain cases. Tomorrow, the Wednesday Page examines the facts behind the debate over Depo-Provera and reports on the evidence gathered by those who support the drug and those who say it should not be widely used.

On the Spectrum page, Christopher Thomas reports on the British invasion of New York that begins tomorrow – an operation which will present America with the best of British culture.

14 'loyalist' terrorists are jailed

Fourteen men, including leading members of the outlawed "loyalist" Ulster Volunteer Force, received two life sentences and a total of 200 years in jail after being convicted at Belfast Crown Court of terrorist offences on evidence supplied by a "supergrass".

Page 2

Record £573m bid for Tilling

BTR, the industrial conglomerate, made a record British industrial bid when it offered £573m for Thomas Tilling, whose businesses include Heinemann publishing, Cornhill Insurance and Pretty Polythene.

Page 17

Livingstone curb

The action of left-wing groups in nominating Mr Kenneth Livingstone as prospective parliamentary candidate for Brent, East, was outside the Labour Party's constitution, a report states.

Shares boom

The FT index rose to a record 683.9, up 8.9, and the pound moved smartly ahead, closing up 2.20 cents at \$1.5270, on hopes of an early cut in base rates.

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Queen for India

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh will attend the opening of the Commonwealth Heads of Government conference in New Delhi in November, when the Queen will also visit Kenya and Bangladesh.



Thames bomb

A German bomb from the Second World War, found by a Thames dredger, brought central London's rush hour to a standstill.

Back page

Czechs can stay

A Czechoslovak family of four who faced religious persecution at home are to be allowed to remain in Britain on compassionate grounds.

Page 3

Willis plea

England's cricket captain, Bob Willis, will today put the case to the Cricketers' Association for changing the county championship from three-day play to four days.

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Leader page 13
Letters: On Police Bill, from Dr R. Fox, and others; war graves, from Mr A. W. G. Wakefield, and Mrs C. Kirk; religious tolerance, from Mrs E. F. Wartenberg, and Mr T. Pritchard.

Leading articles: Education, Middle East; Citizens' Advice Bureau.

Features, pages 10-12
Chilling parallels between Lebanon and Vietnam; The best election bet for the Tories; The Myth of authenticity exposed.

Spectrum: Visions of a world gone sane. Fashion: The best shop assistant in London.

Obituary, page 12
Sir Harold Mitchell, Dr Peter Tabourdin.

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Large army bases tighten Israeli grip on Lebanon

From Robert Fisk, Khirbet Rouha, central Lebanon

Despite the protracted negotiations for the withdrawal of which has been Lebanon's greatest fear for years, but a semi-permanent occupation by two great armies will bring it that much nearer to reality.

At Damour Israeli construction gangs have torn up the track of the old, disused Beirut-Palestine railway, and laid down on the track-bed a half-mile-long runway for a military airstrip. Two aircraft parking bays have already been completed beside the runway.

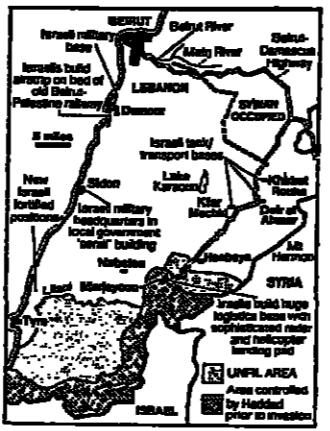
They include hardened helicopter pads, elaborate radar systems, newly tarmacaded tank parks and concrete and brick buildings, all constructed as if the Israelis were planning to stay in Lebanon for years, rather than withdraw from the country in accordance with President Reagan's wishes.

A number of Western diplomats in Beirut, including Americans, now fear that, after pulling its troops back from the international highway outside Beirut to a line running from Damour, south of the capital to the village of Khirbet Rouha in the Bekaa valley, Israel intends to maintain its hold over the rest of the territory it is occupying unless Lebanon signs a peace treaty.

There is also a growing suspicion in Beirut that both the Lebanese Government and the United States have put too much trust in Syria's professed determination to withdraw from Lebanon.

In recent official statements, Syrian Government spokesmen have talked about "a complete understanding" with Lebanon, rather than an agreement to withdraw. The Syrians have several times insisted that they will not initiate a pull-back of forces "until the last Israeli soldier leaves Lebanon".

On the Evidence of the Israeli military structure in Israeli-occupied areas, this could be a long time in coming.



Noone talks about partition, just outside the town of Marjayoun, which is Major Saad Haddad's "capital", there now stands a sprawling logistics base bristling with radar and transmission equipment and with a helicopter landing pad just to the south.

Most of the bases further up the valley, outside the villages of Kfar Mechki, Deir el Ahmar and Khirbet Rouha, are clearly visible from Syrian forward positions on the mountains along the Syrian frontier, and Soviet satellites will have had no difficulty in photographing them.

Ironically, some have been constructed on the wreckage of old Syrian Army depots, which were captured in the Bekaa fighting last June.

The main road up to the Syrian lines just north of Khirbet Rouha has been widened by the Israelis to take armoured vehicles. Along the entire highway, which is still fringed by the ruins of Syrian tanks and trucks, all but four of the road signs are in Hebrew.

By far the greater part of Israel's occupation Army is now positioned along this road.

Both inside Lebanon and along its frontier, Syria has more than 40,000 troops – a third of its entire Army – and could probably roll back the Israeli lines in a surprise attack, though only at enormous cost.

What troubles diplomats in Beirut, and especially the Lebanese Government, is that Israeli positions in the Chouf mountains and along the international highway outside Beirut are of a far more makeshift nature than the bases in the south; they could be abandoned in a matter of days.

South of Sidon, next to the oil terminal at Zahran, a complex military encampment is growing larger each week with barracks, armoured vehicle parking lots and transport sections.

On the other side of the central mountain chain that divides Lebanon, along the floor of the Arcoub and lower Bekaa valleys, the Israelis have constructed a whole series of fortified military bases, many of them protected by 20ft high earth ramparts.

Reagan tries to put the pieces together

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

President Reagan kept in touch yesterday with moderate Arab leaders in an attempt to salvage his Middle East peace plan after the refusal of King Hussein of Jordan to take part in Palestinian autonomy negotiations.

Despite the President's publicly expressed optimism that his September 1 initiative was still alive, United States officials were much less sanguine in private. Some admitted that the plan had received a body blow but could still be revived; others conceded that the King's action may prove to be fatal.

Senior officials said the President was determined to press ahead despite the setback. Mr Larry Speakes, the White House spokesman, said: "The job is too important for him to be deterred by events of the weekend. He will persevere... he is in for a long haul."

From the outset, American officials had made it clear that the key to the initiative lay with King Hussein. If he agreed to join talks on the plan, they believed Israel would take part as well – despite its initial rejection.

Last week it looked as though the efforts would be successful. To give King Hussein a final nudge, the United States announced it would try to get Israel to freeze Jewish settlements on the West Bank.

Mr George Shultz, the Secretary of State, said on television yesterday that King

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ian moderate, was also clearly intended to be a warning to the King not to go along with the Reagan plan.

Mr Reagan described King Hussein's decision as an impediment and blamed the failure on radical elements in the PLO. He refused to accept King Hussein's decision as anything but a temporary setback, declaring that he was still "very hopeful" King Hussein would eventually agree to take part in the talks.

● ABU DHABI: Mr Francis Pym, the British Foreign Secretary, who visits Jordan today for talks on the developments, said in Abu Dhabi yesterday: "I regard the development as a setback for peace moves... but it is too early to judge whether it will be a lasting or temporary attitude."

Growing belief in a June election

By Julian Haviland, Political Editor

For those seeking signs, one was given with the announcement that an early election will be held on May 5, the date which Conservative Central Office in London would have preferred.

Many were encouraged yesterday by the evidence that talk of an early election had contributed to a strengthening of the pound, based on expectations that the Conservatives would be returned.

Members of the Government, who sound less confident in private than in public of an election victory, had feared that uncertainty about the outcome might damage sterling.

Yesterday the "June lobby" among ministers and back-benchers suggested that the sentiment in the City and overseas might not only have removed Mrs Margaret Thatcher's inhibitions about going to the country early, but also enabled her to claim, if she wished, that it was her duty to seek a new mandate while confidence prevailed.

Arab held after PLO man's death

From Susan MacDonald, London

Portuguese police are holding a man in connexion with the assassination of Issam Sartawi, the leader of the Palestine Liberation Organization, had been on the verge of endorsing the President's initiative.

However it has become clear that the PLO radicals had a greater impact on King Hussein's decision than all the exhortations made by President Reagan. His name has been given as Yusef al-Awad, aged 26, an Arab holding a Moroccan passport issued in Casablanca.

He was detained in a Lisbon hotel on Sunday afternoon having apparently taken a taxi from an hotel in the Algarve near the Montechoro Hotel. He is due to appear in court this afternoon although it is still unclear as to what the charge will be.

Police sources say that they have not yet verified the validity of his passport, nor of the dollars he was carrying.

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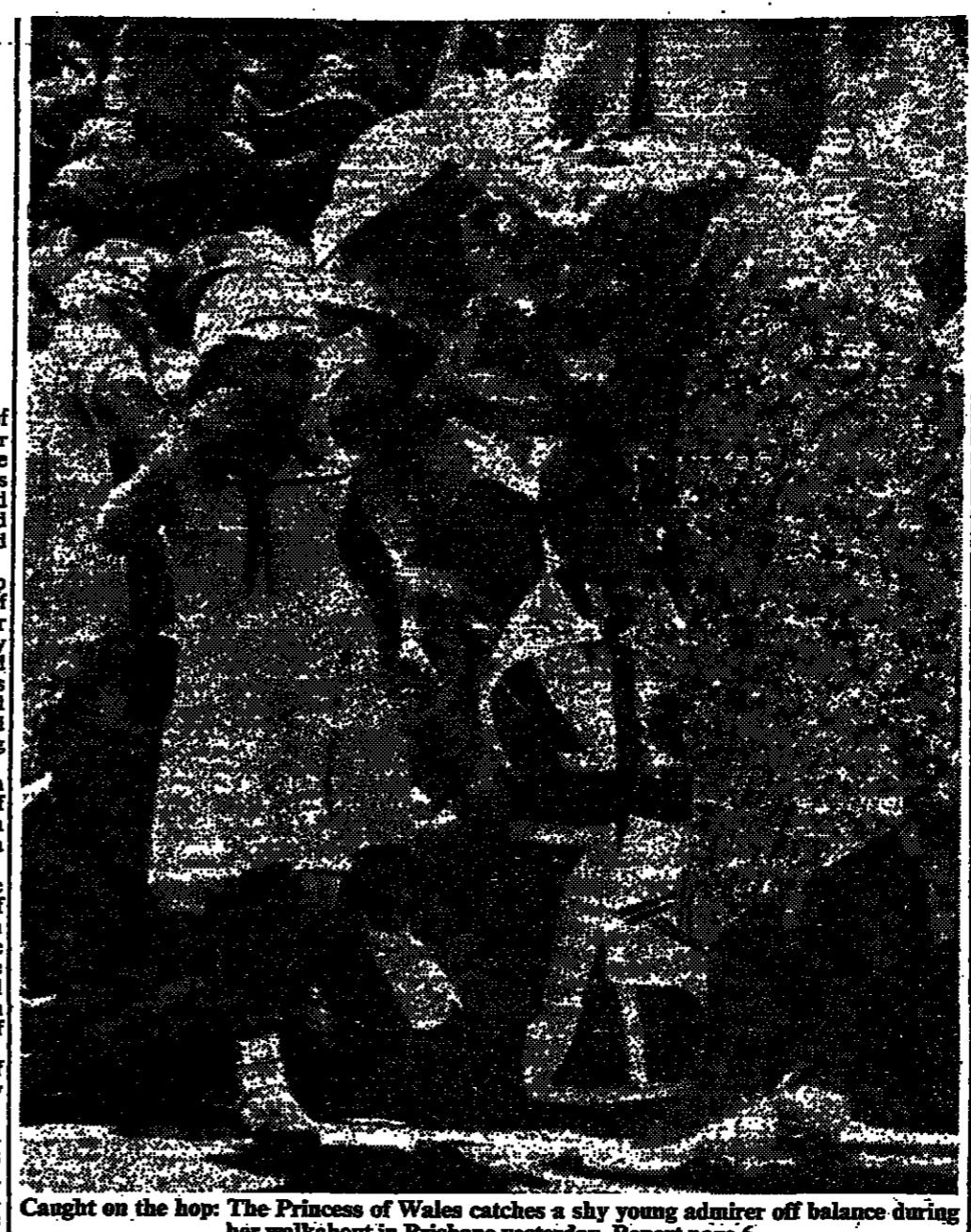
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Caught on the hop: The Princess of Wales catches a shy young admirer off balance during her walkabout in Brisbane yesterday. Report page 6

Sergeant killed burnt Argentine

By Philip Webster
Political Reporter

An Argentine prisoner of war on the Falklands Islands who was burning to death after an explosion while he was moving ammunition was shot by a British soldier to put him out of his agony.

Mr Michael Heseltine, the Defence Secretary, gave details of the incident last night in a Commons reply about inquiries into the death and injury of Argentine PoWs in British custody and made clear that no disciplinary action would be taken against the sergeant involved. The Ministry of Defence last night declined to name him or his regiment.

Four PoWs died as a result of the explosion on June 1 last year at Goose Green and a further eight were injured. The inquiry has found that there was no breach of the Geneva convention which prevents PoWs from being forced to do dangerous work.

Mr Heseltine, stating it had been concluded that the work could be classed as dangerous, said that the prisoners had undertaken their task without coercion.

Mr Heseltine gave a graphic account in his reply of the dilemma facing the sergeant. After the action at Darwin and Goose Green large quantities of arms and ammunition were found, posing a threat to the civilian population which could not return home until the houses had been checked and cleared.

British forces had to give high priority to making the ammunition safe and clearing it to a central collection point at the airfield, while Argentine PoWs accommodated in a large sheep-shearing shed.

Mr Heseltine went on: "On the afternoon of June 1, 1982 a prisoner of war work detail under the supervision of an Argentine officer and guarded by three British soldiers was engaged on the task of moving ammunition from near the sheep-shearing shed when there was a loud explosion.

A very fierce fire began and although rescuers managed to pull the injured clear, one prisoner of war was seen to stagger back into the flames.

Attempts to reach him failed and a sergeant of the British forces who had over a period of some minutes been repeatedly driven back by the heat and flames and who thought the prisoner was beyond assistance but still alive and in agony obtained a rifle and fired three or four shots at the man."

Mr Heseltine said that shortly after the incident an Argentine officer had complained that a British soldier had shot a prisoner of war. Eye-witnesses, including the sergeant, were interviewed and the facts explained to Argentine officers who accepted them and did not pursue the matter further.

Falkland pilgrims remember their dead beneath the sea

From Alan Hamilton, Port Stanley

The Falklands bereaved confirmed their pilgrimage yesterday with a simple, dignified and moving act of remembrance for those 174 members of the task force who have no grave but the sea.

Several hundred relatives crowded the aft helicopter deck of their liner *Commodore Johnstone* as she steamed up Falkland Sound in diamond bright sun.

As the congregation broke into "Eternal Father Strong to Save" several of the relatives were overcome by the moment and the music and wept openly.

Representatives of all the task force services and the Royal Navy, the Civil Commissioner, the *Antelope* and *Shearwater* and at each place those relatives most closely involved held small private services and cast their own wreaths on the water.

As the Royal Marines Band played "Elegy" the relatives gathered by the rail to shower the placid sea with a cascade of flowers. In a moment they were left behind, lost to the sight of all but the inquisitive petrels swooping in the bright glassy water.

As at the previous day's dedication of the San Carlos war memorial, the passengers lined the rails with caps off in silent tribute to their dead comrades.

Fourteen 'loyalists' jailed for terror offences on 'supergrass' evidence

From Richard Ford, Belfast

Fourteen men, including leading members of the outlawed "loyalist" Ulster Volunteer Force, received two life sentences and a total of 200 years in jail in Belfast yesterday after being found guilty of 66 terrorist offences at the end of the first big "supergrass" trial in Northern Ireland. Two men were acquitted.

The heavy sentences imposed by Mr Justice Murray, after a 21-day trial, were greeted by gasps and tears from several of the men handcuffed in the dock at Belfast Crown Court. All the charges had been denied.

The judge was accused of being "a coward" and from the public gallery there were cries of "no surrender" and "there are plenty more to take your place".

The Royal Ulster Constabulary and the Director of Public Prosecutions in the province will be delighted that their policy of using "supergrasses" has been vindicated at the end of the first big trial involving what they describe as "converted terrorists" as the main prosecution witnesses.

A number of similar cases are pending, involving both loyalist and republican paramilitary groups, including one involving a Provisional Sinn Fein and Provisional IRA "supergrass". There had been doubt about whether courts would convict

solely or mainly on the evidence of a terrorist accomplice.

Almost all the evidence in the trial came from Joseph Bennett, aged 36, a self-confessed UVF commander in Sandy Row, Belfast, who had been granted immunity from prosecution for his involvement in a series of crimes, including the killing of a postmistress last year.

It was when Mr Bennett, a widower with two children, was detained after that incident that he decided to turn Queen's evidence.

Mr Justice Murray, criticized the Crown's refusal to give evidence about the terms of Mr Bennett's immunity as "most undesirable".

In a judgment lasting three and a quarter hours, made to a court crowded with 86 policemen and prison officers, the judge described Mr Bennett as a "ruthless, resourceful and experienced criminal" who even used his dead father's police uniform to carry out robberies.

Described by defence as a downright liar without scruple who was attempting to save his own skin, Mr Bennett the judge said, had nevertheless not flinched from identifying the accused. He had not been shaken in any of the essential matters dealing with the various crimes.

Advice bureaux hit back at minister

By Rupert Morris

There was strong reaction yesterday from the National Association of Citizens' Advice Bureaux to criticisms made at the weekend by Dr Gerard Vaughan, Minister for Consumer Affairs.

Officers of the association stated that they had never been made aware of Dr Vaughan's complaints about political partisanship and financial mismanagement, and made plain that they were outraged by his public pronouncements.

Dr Vaughan had announced that he would advance NACAB only £3m. half its annual grant, with the other half withheld until the association "puts its house in order". Mr David Ennals, Labour MP for Norwich, North, called for an emergency debate in the House of Commons on Dr Vaughan's "disparaging remarks" but his request was rejected by Mr George Thomas, the Speaker.

Lord McGregor, president of NACAB, said: "It is a most serious and unusual situation when a minister makes public accusations against a grant-receiving body without attempting to get answers to his questions privately from the responsible officers in the first instance".

Mrs Elizabeth Filkin, recently appointed Director of NACAB, revealed that she had investigated complaints from Dr Vaughan about the activities of Mrs Joan Ruddock, chairman of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament, who is a part-time organizer for CAB in Reading, Berkshire.

Distortion admitted in drug survey

From a Staff Reporter

Mr William Boyes, who was responsible for a report claiming that paramilitary groups were turning Northern Ireland into an important centre for drug trafficking, admitted yesterday that he had never spoken to the police on the matter and that "inexperience" had led him to make some of his allegations.

Mr Boyes, formerly a research assistant at Aberdeen University, confessed that much of his evidence came from secondary sources, including newspaper reports, and that the figures he used concerning drugs in the province were so small that they were of little use.

He had never approached either "loyalist" or republican paramilitary groups on the subject of drug trafficking and had been mistaken in using the NACAB council and its executive who could have raised the matter of financial mismanagement if they had wanted to. But the matter had not been raised until now.

Mrs Filkin said she had asked Dr Vaughan for evidence of untoward political activity in local bureaux, but he had insisted that his information was confidential.

In those circumstances, she said, it was difficult for NACAB to know what was required in order to satisfy Dr Vaughan.

Mr Alfred Dubs, Labour MP for Battersea, South, said Dr Vaughan's behaviour was "cack-handed" and his motives were political.

MP's complaint is upheld

A complaint by Mr Andrew Faulls, the Labour MP for Wavertree, that he was not given the right of reply to an offensive attack in a newspaper was upheld by the Press Council yesterday.

The council said MPs did not have an automatic right of reply to references to them in parliamentary sketches but a description of a Commons incident by The columnist, Edward Pierce in the *Daily Telegraph* was worded so strongly as to warrant a reply.

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Tribunal to investigate dismissal of Ford man

By Paul Routledge
Labour Editor

A three-man independent tribunal of inquiry is to investigate the dismissal of Mr Paul Kelly, the assembly worker dismissed from Ford's Halewood plant in Merseyside, for alleged vandalism of a car part worth £6. A strike over the management's action cost an estimated £90m in lost production.

Sir John Wood, professor of Law at Sheffield University and chairman of the Central Arbitration Committee, will head the arbitration panel, set up under the auspices of the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service (Acas).

He will be assisted by Mr L D Cowan, the secretary and director of the London Clearing Bank Employers Association, and Mr Laurie Sapper, who recently retired as general secretary of the Association of University Teachers.

Their terms of reference are: "To consider background events and evidence leading to the dismissal of Mr Paul Kelly and to determine whether the company acted reasonably in dismissing him in those circumstances."

About 5,000 Ford employees at the plant returned to work last Friday after a four-week strike over the dismissal of Mr Kelly.

However, more than 4,000 body plant workers at Halewood have voted to stop work if the company goes ahead with what the Transport and General Workers' Union calls a "Japanese-style" programme of work restructuring aimed at making the plant more efficient.

The inquiry into the Kelly case will be conducted in Manchester. Both sides have agreed to accept its findings, "without further dispute".

Negotiations were going on

late last night in the dispute at BCL's Cowley plant, where a two-week stoppage by assembly workers has cost production of Maestro, Ambassador, Accord and Rover models worth about £30m at showroom prices.

BL management were said to be taking a tough line in the "washing-up" time dispute over the company's phasing out of a three-minute early finishing allowance.

Mr Boyes, formerly a research assistant at Aberdeen University, confessed that much of his evidence came from secondary sources, including newspaper reports, and that the figures he used concerning drugs in the province were so small that they were of little use.

He had never approached either "loyalist" or republican paramilitary groups on the subject of drug trafficking and had been mistaken in using the NACAB council and its executive who could have raised the matter of financial mismanagement if they had wanted to. But the matter had not been raised until now.

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Pilgrims remember the dead beneath the sea

Continued from page 1

autumn weather, the sun breaking life into the dull green moorlands and remaining many of north-west Scotland.

Into their minds has sunk the magnitude of distance: the 8,000 miles between here and home have become real. They realize now how far their men went to fight. But for most the fact that they have travelled half a world has not shaken their belief in the right of the cause for which their menfolk died.

Mrs Elaine Evans, whose Royal Marine husband Kenneth died at Ajax Bay on May 27 and is now buried in the Saint Carlos Cemetery, spoke her thoughts after yesterday's service.

"Right from the beginning I knew this was a trip I and the two children had to make. Coming here was tremendous: when you looked around, it could have been a part of England. To me it was worth fighting for: it was like fighting for home. The people are so British too."

"But it is not so much the land: it is the principle that was worth fighting for."

Mrs Evans' conviction was

not, however, universally shared by those few passengers who agreed to give their first impressions.

Miss Deborah Price, aged 23

from Portsmouth, regarded the cost of her brother Donald's life aboard the Atlantic Conveyor as too high.

Emotions and beliefs will be disturbed even more when the passengers land at Port Stanley to be received and entertained by families in their homes. Both on board and ashore there is uncertainty as to what feelings the encounter will provoke.

Other interesting pairings among leading players are J. Richardson and R. Hartoch, the Dutch international master; M. Condie, the Scottish junior, and the French international master R. Manouk; and the Hungarian grandmaster, J. Flesch and the Scottish player, R. McKay.

Unfortunately, two of the most promising younger players in the event, the Dutchman, J. van Mil and the Oxford University player, William Watson, have had to withdraw because of illness.

The council, which covers the Wembley and Willesden districts, is surveying the lead levels in blood of all its 38,000 school children.



The master of the Schutte, Captain Nikolas Georgiou, being helped from an ambulance at Cudrose yesterday.

Fifty rescued from sea in hurricane force winds

By Michael Horsell

The captain of a stricken Panamanian vessel was yesterday persuaded to abandon a 20-hour long vigil on the bridge of his burning ship 1,000 miles off Land's End after the arrival of a helicopter rescue crew from the Falklands campaign flagship HMS Hermes.

Capt Yu Zong Su, aged 38, a Korean, had refused to leave the 40,070-ton bulk carrier Bay Club after first leaving from the English Channel and the south-west approaches during the worst 24 hours' weather of the year.

As conditions moderated yesterday to force seven, with winds down to 38 mph, another Panamanian ship, Schutte 1, a 984-ton vessel which developed a 15-degree list 75 miles south

Science report

Turkeys added to list of flu carriers

By the Staff of *Science*

The range of domesticated animals from which people can be infected with influenza has now been extended from pigs to turkeys. A report just published in *Science*, the American journal, describes the isolation, during an investigation of the causes of a sudden drop in egg production among female farmed turkeys, of viruses which are apparently similar to those responsible for influenza in people and pigs.

The relationship between human influenza and that in pigs is well documented by cases, principally in the Middle West of the United States in which people suffering from influenza harbour viruses indistinguishable from those responsible for the same disease in pigs. But there are also many records of human infection with pig virus which cannot be accounted for by direct transmission from pig to person. The most notorious of them was the outbreak in 1976 of pig influenza among soldiers serving at the United States Army at Fort Dix, New Jersey.

Over the course of several years the domesticated pig population has, however, been recognized as an important source of strains of influenza viruses that are well adapted to cause influenza in people.

Strains of influenza virus are now distinguished from each other by the way in which the human immune system reacts to the two principal proteins in the outer coat of the virus, called haemagglutinin and neuraminidase, while the sporadic resurgence of epidemics among people is accounted for by the occasional emergence of aberrant forms of these proteins, most probably among the pig population.

Turkeys have been most dramatically implicated as reservoirs of influenza by the fact that a laboratory technician employed on the study of the fall-off in egg production among turkeys from Missouri, Colorado and Kansas went down with an infection clinically indistinguishable from influenza. Further study showed that his immune system had reacted specifically against the turkey virus and not against any known human strain.

One curious feature of the influenza virus infecting turkeys is that it appears to have multiplied primarily in the nasal tracts of the birds and not in their intestinal tracts, the most prolific site of virus production in other influenza-like infections. In this respect, the newly identified turkey virus resembles the strains which infect people and other mammals.

The authors of the research; V. S. Hinshaw, R. G. Webster and W. J. Bean from St Jude's Children's Research Hospital in Memphis, D. A. Senn from the United States National Veterinary Service Laboratories in Iowa and J. Downie from Viral Products in Parkville (Victoria), Australia, are plainly at a loss to know what to make of their observations. Living turkeys are plainly a way in which pig influenza can be transferred to people. Whether turkey farms will become places in which viruses capable of causing human epidemics can be generated remains to be seen.

Source: *Science* (Vol 220, page 206, April 8, 1983)

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The bid for Sotheby's

Staff intend to fight takeover

By Geraldine Norman
Sale Room Correspondent

The shape of the international art market must be radically altered by the takeover bid for the Sotheby Parke-Bernet group made yesterday by a subsidiary of General Felt Industries/Knoll International.

Sotheby's staff have decided to fight the bid. "I shall blow my brains out if we do not succeed", Mr Graham Llewellyn, chief executive, said yesterday.

So these who consign goods to Sotheby's for sale can, for the present, have no knowledge of who will handle the business. Most of the London staff have indicated that they may leave if the bid goes through.

That may be an empty vaunt. Nevertheless, sellers in the short term are likely to turn to Christie's where a more or less lenient service is provided.

The switch of business has already started. Last autumn worldwide turnover at Christie's rose by £15m, while Sotheby's fell by £32m. The fall came after Sotheby's widely advertised financial difficulties and underlines the overriding importance of confidence in attracting consignors to an auction room.

The longer uncertainty lasts over whether the General Felt bid will succeed, the more business Sotheby's is likely to forfeit. If the bid succeeds it will take some time for the new shape and approach of the company to be established. The general feeling in the art market yesterday was that Sotheby's is altered radically.

Mr Marshall Cogan and Mr Stephen Swid, the American bankers who run GFI/Knoll and have organized the bid, stressed their intention to build on the Sotheby tradition.

Then Peter Wilson resigned and its troubles started. There was one of equal stature to take over. Sotheby's had some far years in the late 1970s and the company had embarked on an ambitious expansion programme when the recession struck.

To restore the position it became a dramatic cost-cutting exercise last year, closing sale rooms and reducing staff by 500.

Christie's followed in its footsteps, also internationalizing its operations. Sotheby's made and its troubles started. There was one of equal stature to take over. Sotheby's had some far years in the late 1970s and the company had embarked on an ambitious expansion programme when the recession struck.

After a hearing lasting about six minutes he was remanded in custody until April 18. Mr Brian Cox, his solicitor, made no application for bail.

Mr Korsa-Acqua appeared before the court last Friday, when he was accused of attempting to

Charlton chess leaders to meet today

By Harry Golombek
Chess Correspondent

The two leaders in the Charlton Jubilee International chess tournament in London, the Dutchman, R. Douven and the New Zealander, C. Laird, who had 3½ points each at the end of round four on Saturday, are paired with each other in round five today. Sunday was a rest day.

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Theft from disc jockey of power boat cash denied by businessman

By Stewart Teal, Crime Reporter

Basil Wainwright, a businessman, yesterday denied charges of dishonestly obtaining more than £40,000 from Mr Noel Edmunds, the disc jockey.

He pleaded not guilty at Worcester Crown Court to a total of 22 charges, including nine of theft. He denied two charges of obtaining £25,000 from Mr Edmunds by deception and others of obtaining £16,840 by theft.

Mr Wainwright, aged 48, of Greenleigh Road, Yardley Wood, Birmingham, appeared before Judge John Lee with Shery Cuffe, aged 29, his former secretary, of Parkfield Drive, Castle Bromwich, West Midlands.

Mr Wainwright denies a total of nine charges of theft, five of forgery, five of false accounting, two of obtaining money by deception and one of obtaining money through a pecuniary advantage.

Miss Cuffe denies on charge of theft, four of forgery and five of false accounting. All the alleged offences took place between October, 1980, and last August.

The theft and deception charges against Mr Wainwright and his connexion with Mr

Edmunds centred on a firm called Creasegen Ltd, which is based at Redditch, Hereford and Worcester, Mr Michael Pratt, QC, for the prosecution told the court.

The firm was set up to develop a hydro-wing power-boat called Excalibur, with which Mr Edmunds hoped to beat the world water speed record.

Mr Edmunds first met Mr Wainwright when they filmed the motoring programme, *Top Gear*, at the BBC studios in Birmingham, Mr Pratt told the jury.

He said that Mr Wainwright was promoting a new system of ignition through his company, Wainwright International Incorporated, which is based in America.

During the meeting at the television studios Mr Edmunds told Mr Wainwright and Mr Frederick Stidworthy, an inventor of Warwick, of his idea for a record-breaking speedboat.

Mr Stidworthy produce plans based on the idea and Mr Wainwright got in touch with Mr Edmunds in November, 1980. Mr Edmunds agreed, Mr Pratt said, on a pound-for-pound basis to invest £70,000 in

the project. The first craft would belong to Mr Edmunds and would be called Excalibur.

The plans were finalized at a meeting in Stratford-on-Avon in January, 1981, Mr Pratt said. Later that month Mr Edmunds paid £10,000 to Creasegen.

Mr Edmunds was presented with a miniature model of Excalibur, and by May had paid in the Creasegen his agreed £70,000.

Mr Pratt said that because of Mr Edmunds's involvement the BBC planned to make a film of the project, which was to be called "Birth of a Boat". He told the jury that a more apt title might have been "The Boat that never was".

He said that eventually Mr Edmunds became concerned because he could not see accounts kept by Mr Wainwright concerning Creasegen.

So in July, 1981, "with a sense of drama", the BBC sent a camera crew to interview Mr Edmunds and Mr Wainwright at the Redditch factory.

By that time the Creasegen bank account was overdrawn by more than £21,000 and Mr Edmunds did not know what had happened to his money. The trial continues today.

Train gang used Trojan horse plan

A gang of train robbers used a Trojan horse method to carry out their last August of Post Office mail, the Central Criminal Court was told yesterday.

A man hid in a large locked trunk equipped with oxygen apparatus to enable him to breath. The trunk was then dispatched with another into the train's security compartment.

During the journey from Euston to Stoke-on-Trent he emerged through a false door in the side of the trunk and then loaded the second with mailbags full of valuable property. He was however, caught by detectives who had been investigating large-scale thefts from trains, the court heard.

James Hanrahan, aged 42, a decorator, of Kentish Town, north London, the slightly built man who hid in the trunk, was jailed for four years. Elisa Paule, aged 24, of Green Lanes, north London, who bought the tickets and travelled on the train, was given a 12-month sentence, suspended for two years.

George Howard, aged 52, an actor, of Jupiter Way, Islington, north London, who recruited Paule and helped to organize the scheme, was sentenced to three years. Michael Montague, aged 34, a motor mechanic, of Lower Clapton, north-east London, was jailed for his part as the "strong man" who carried the trunk containing Hanrahan to the train. They all pleaded guilty to conspiracy to steal Post Office mail from the train in August last year.

Judge Box said: "The courts can only take an extremely serious view of people who set out to violate the security system".

Mr Michael Savers, for the prosecution, said it was a highly organized attack on the supposed vandal-proof contents of royal mail. They had adopted the system of the Trojan horse to gain entry to the security luggage parts of the train. However, he said, it was "nipped in the bud" by luck and good police work.

Hanrahan worked for the Post Office for 18 years and knew the security system. When he left through "ill health" he kept the keys to vital security locks and his uniform. He thought up the scheme.

Paul was arrested on the train and confessed to the scheme, and Howard and another man were captured as they waited with a hired van at Stoke-on-Trent to unload the trunks.

Heroism of Rob James's crewman praised

From Craig Seton, Plymouth

Rob James, the international yachtsman, fought a losing battle against cold after falling from his trimaran and died in spite of the "heroism" of Mr Jeffrey Houlgrave, who jumped into the sea to try to save his skipper, an inquest in Plymouth was told yesterday.

Mr David Bishop, the Plymouth and south-west Devon Coroner, praised all four of Mr James's crew for their considerable effort, but said heroism was probably the right word to use for Mr Houlgrave aged 29.

"Quite regardless of the risk to his own safety - and there was very considerable risk - he plunged into the cold water and assisted in the recovery until he was overcome by cold and fatigue," Mr Bishop said.

The inquest heard that Mr Houlgrave managed to get Mr James back to the side of the trimaran until his grip was broken by a large wave. Numerous attempts had been made to save Mr James after he fell from the trimaran. Col. Cars GB two miles off Salcombe harbour just before dawn on March 20, and he could be heard shouting, "I am going down; I am going down".

Czech family can stay in Britain

By Frances Gibb

The Home Secretary yesterday agreed to allow a Czechoslovak family of four who faced deportation to remain in Britain on compassionate grounds after representations from Conservative MPs.

Mr Bohuslav Starosta, his wife and their two sons came to Britain from Prague in December, 1981, with three-week holiday visas and sought political asylum on the ground that they faced religious persecution as Christians. They belong to a Moravian church.

Their application to stay was refused, first by the immigration appeals adjudicator and then by the appeals tribunal, although both of those said there were compassionate grounds for allowing the family to remain.

Yesterday, after Mr David Waddington, the Home Office Minister responsible for immigration, had announced the Home Secretary's decision, Mr Starosta, who is aged 37 and a quantity surveyor, said: "It is fantastic news. We are so pleased." He intends to try to get a job.

The normal procedure in such cases is that after a year the Starostas can make an application to remain in Britain indefinitely. Unless the political situation in Czechoslovakia changes, they are likely to be allowed to do so.

House prices 'forced up by too much Green Belt'

By Hugh Clayton, Environment Correspondent

London home-buyers faced steep price rises because too much land was classed as Green Belt, the House-Builders' Federation claimed in London yesterday. Mr Peter Woodrow, president of the federation and a buyer of land for the Wimpey group, said: "Whenever a piece of land comes on to the market we all want that same piece of land."

"We do not put in what the land is worth", he continued. "We have to put in what we think will beat the rest. We are all forcing land prices up." Mr Roger Humber, director of the federation, said: "Housing land prices in London and the South-east have doubled in the past year. This is very bad news for home buyers."

The federation called for release for building of 240 acres of Green Belt on 21 sites owned by London boroughs in the suburbs of the capital. Almost half of the land was near the Minet Estate, in Uxbridge, and the rest was scattered in small plots all round the outskirts of London.

The federation claimed that the sites had no value as Green Belt and that some were eyesores that would be improved by houses. They also called for a change in Green Belt policies so that councils would no longer be able to designate large tracts of countryside, but would have to justify the Green Belt value of each piece of land chosen.

"We as house builders are not trying to destroy Green Belt", Mr Humber said. But we really cannot afford the luxury of the policies that we have now. Blanket policies must be replaced by a policy of qualitative examination of each site."

after the tragedy, was not at the inquest and nor were any other members of Mr James's family.

Recording a verdict of accidental death on Mr James, of Upper Enham, Andover, Mr Bishop said it was easy to be wise after the event but at that period of the year the time to effect any sort of recovery or rescue was considerably limited.

The inquest was told that when Mr James fell overboard Mr Paul Veadon, a chartered surveyor, of Bristol was helping to bring down the mainsail and Miss Michèle de Bruin, aged 20, was at the helm. Below, off

For 25 minutes his skipper could be seen in his white oilskins or heard shouting as the crew tried with difficulty to tack and bring the trimaran round to him; then it was decided that somebody had to go into the water to attempt a rescue.

Mr Houlgrave said he had jumped into the sea with a line tied around him. "I managed to get hold of Rob and he was

conscious but with very little strength left. I merely held him out of the water until we were dragged back," he said.

Mr Houlgrave said he and Mr James were alongside the hull of the trimaran but the waves were lifting them out of the water. "I was finding it very difficult to hang on and I was losing feeling in the extremities".

Mr Yeadon and Mr Cane had grabbed hold of Mr James by his oilskins but the waves had snatched him away. Mr Houlgrave said: "Shortly after, I lost my grip as well".

He said it would have been possible to launch the dinghy on board, given sufficient time.

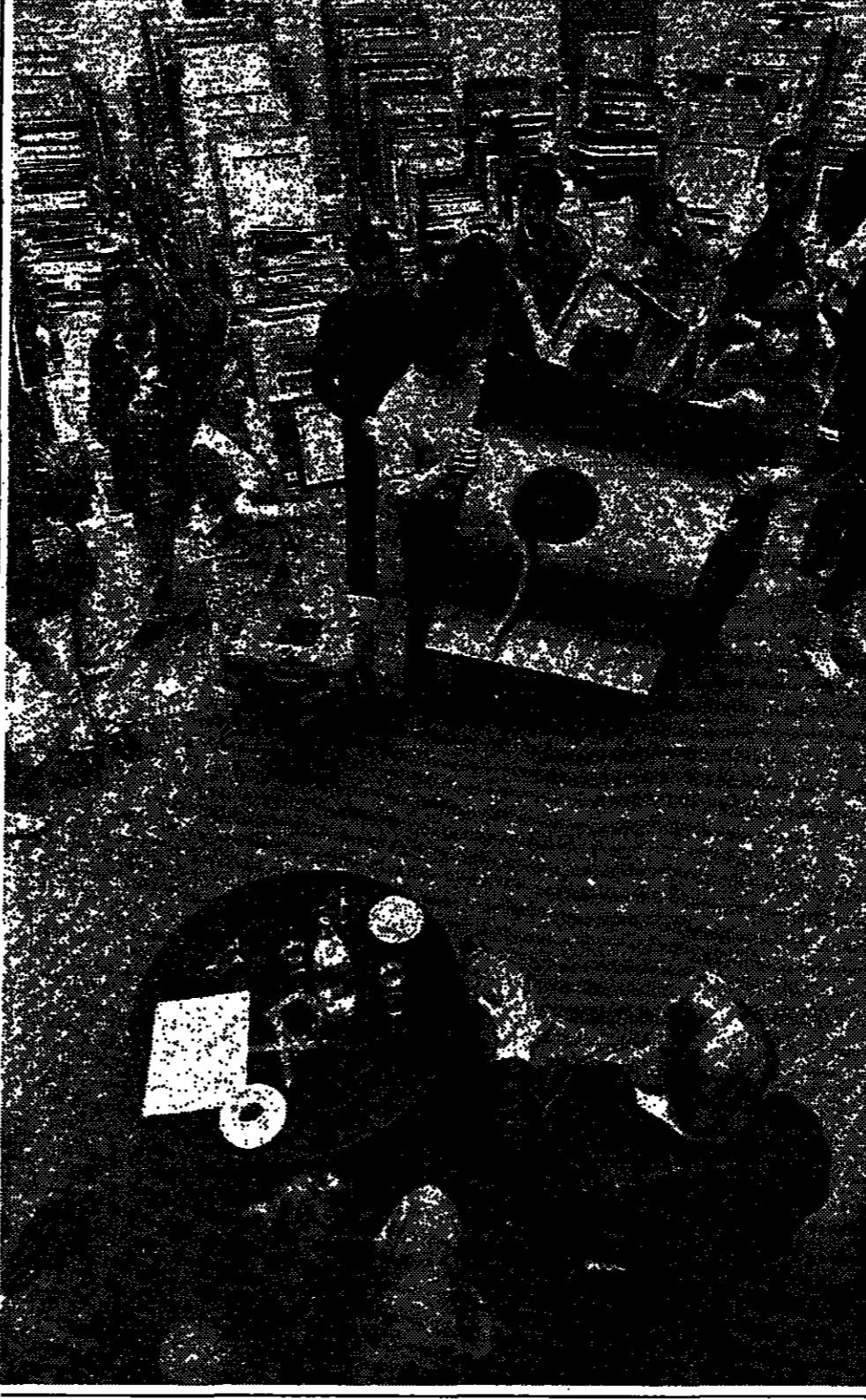
The idea was sufficient and discounted because of its limited use in strong winds.

Mr Houlgrave added: "There was no panic at any stage by anyone".

Riding tack raid

Saddles, bridles and horse rugs valued at £10,000 have been stolen from a farm at Henley-on-Thames, Oxfordshire. The stolen tack included 30 saddle sets, some branded with the letters NFB, belonging to Mrs Caroline Brake.

Artists canvass the RA critics for a place in the exhibition...



... but for some, rejection

The grimly named "hanging commode" of the Royal Academy of Arts (RA) yesterday began its annual task of selecting paintings and other works for its summer exhibition. About 13,000 works have been submitted for the event, which runs from May 28 until August 28.

Paintings arriving by the barrow-load were passed like fire buckets along a human chain of art students so that they could be displayed in front of distinguished judges, including Rodrigo Moisés, RA secretary.

A show of hands determined whether the artist's pride and joy got an "X" for reject or a "D" for doubtful hastily chalked on the back.

The panel chaired by Peter Greenham, RA schools chair-

man, was considering only paintings yesterday.

A worn cushion and matching stool (left) had been brought out, as for the past 30 years. On that cushion each painting rested for an average of two seconds.

Paintings arriving by the barrow-load were passed like fire buckets along a human chain of art students so that they could be displayed in front of distinguished judges, including Rodrigo Moisés, RA secretary.

They will have to reject about nine out of ten of the works submitted. The "doubtful" will be reappraised before final selection and hanging. (Photographs: Brian Harris).

Swede cleared of aiding Boss burglary

A Swedish journalist accused of acting as a South African agent in Britain, was cleared at the Central Criminal Court yesterday of involvement in a break-in at the London offices of an anti-apartheid organization.

Later he produced a sketch pad of the offices to assist a burglar, who broke in and stole documents last summer, it was alleged. However the jury found Mr Wedin, of Tonbridge, Kent, not guilty of burglary between July 31 and August 10 last and not guilty of dishonestly receiving stolen letters and other documents between July 30 and September 14 last.

The prosecution alleged that Mr Wedin had interviewed Mr Hamilton Keke, of the Pan African Congress offices. Mr Wedin, a former Swedish Army officer, who has an English wife, said he had supplied information to a South African company in good faith, not realizing that it was a front for South African intelligence.

"If you are a political analyst you can never be sure where the information goes", he said.

Mr Roy Amot, for the prosecution, had alleged that Mr Wedin and Peter Casleton were both working as South African agents and that Casleton arranged for Edward Aspinall, a convicted burglar, to break into the Pan African Congress offices. Mr Amot said it was not alleged that Mr Wedin actually broke into the premises himself.

Casleton, aged 38, and Aspinall, aged 23, were jailed at



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Whitelaw seeks balance on data protection

COMMONS

Evidence of the information technology revolution was apparent wherever one looked, in banking, building societies, retail trading and mail order businesses, throughout commerce and industry and increasingly in government. Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, said when moving the second reading of the Data Protection Bill.

The Bill, which has passed the House, was needed if the United Kingdom was to keep the service that government supplied to the citizen, and to ensure that the information technology business flourished. Mr Whitelaw said:

It achieved that by reassuring the public that the holding of personal information by computer was properly controlled so dispelling any lingering unease which might inhibit its use, and further it protected the international trading position by falling into line with the position of the leading business organisations that already had protective legislation.

Companies operating on a multinational basis – and thousands of jobs were involved – depended increasingly on the international interchange of computerized data.

Although there had been few reported instances of misuse of information held on computers that did not mean there was no potential for abuse, nor should it blind anyone to the real concern that that potential could become reality if suitable controls were not introduced.

The Bill provided for the first time that the individual had a general right of access to data held about him and it required the registration of the holding and use of data.

It gave no new powers to the police or to any public authority other than the Data Protection Registrar.

The convention open for signature by the Council of Europe in 1981 offered an international standard for data protection which had provided a yardstick against which the government could consider its proposals. The Government's intention was to ratify the Council of Europe Convention and its provisions had been kept firmly in mind in drafting the Bill.

The fundamental problem was the fear of the capabilities of computers. The Bill was a measure to meet particular threats derived from the capacity of computers to store a mass of information and to locate specific items, and then link it with other information about the person in question.

This was not a measure for the general protection of personal information but one designed to meet the particular threats, actual or perceived, which derived from the use of computers: that is, their capacity to store a mass of information, their ability to locate items of information virtually instantaneously, and then link it with other information about the person in question. That was the threat with which they were attempting to deal, not the much broader concern about the use made of information about one person by another.

For this reason the Government had restricted its Bill to automatically processed data. Otherwise it would require a monstrous bureaucracy and place intolerable burdens on users. Even then there would be grave doubts about whether it would be enforceable.

The Bill took eight general principles relating to the use made of data collected, held and disseminated. It required data only to be used in accordance with the purposes specified and provided for the quality of the data in accuracy, relevance, etc.

It dealt with the principles of rights of access to the data held about people and its correction or erasure where necessary, and

provided adequate security measures to protect the data.

Compliance was enforceable through the provision of a registrar, who could consult and advise and negotiate before taking action.

A vital feature of the scheme was his capacity to use his discretionary powers to tailor his response to the circumstances of each case. This flexibility of approach was preferable to any scheme in which a user collecting data unfairly or holding data which was directly liable to criminal prosecution.

They had chosen a single registrar rather than a multi-member authority because it was the most economic use of resources, and since the scheme would be funded by data users themselves, this was particularly important to them.

A registrar would be able to act more rapidly, authoritatively and conveniently than a committee. It would provide a point of contact, consistency and the build up of understanding and expertise best achieved by an individual. And, because of the variety of cases that would arise, a registrar who could accept advice from wherever he saw fit would be better equipped than a committee representing a inevitably incomplete range of interests.

The heart of the data users was the right of the data user to register. This would not be an onerous process, involving the answering of no more than six questions and payment of a small fee. Acceptance onto the register would be automatic in most cases and after that the majority of users would not be bothered again by the registrar.

The requirements of registration had deliberately been kept to a minimum to ensure that users did not face unreasonable burdens. Data users would be required to specify the purposes for which they held data and bring into the open the processing of personal data, so meeting the fears of unknown activities taking place in secret.

Any user could go to the register to discover the purpose of the information and this was a key feature of the scheme. The register would also provide an up-to-date account of the uses being made of computerized personal information and the purpose for which data users claimed to be engaging in that activity.

It would be a starting point from which he would be able to decide if a user was sticking to his declared intentions and whether there was any cause to investigate whether the data user was in fact using the data for other purposes.

A delicate balance had had to be struck between, on the one hand, the risk of setting up a cumbersome bureaucracy continuously at the heels of legitimate business activity and impeding technological development, and, on the other, guarding against the registrar being ineffective and lacking the powers and resources to give any teeth to the registrar.

The Government did not want a vast new quantity jeopardizing efficiency in every area of national life and had gone for a central organization which would not interfere unnecessarily. The burdens on law-abiding users would be kept to a minimum but the registrar would not be ineffective where the need for action arose.

The powers given to the registrar were a substantial armoury for him to use when necessary. In most cases he would proceed by negotiation and agreement. But if negotiation broke down, the registrar would have an effective means of ensuring that the data protection principles were complied with.

The Government wished to ensure that transfer of data abroad did not circumvent the domestic provisions while, at the same time, maintaining respect for international obligations to transmit data and acknowledging the general importance of data flowing freely between the United Kingdom and abroad.

The registrar would have a power of entry only after he had first obtained a warrant from a circuit judge by satisfying him that there

Companies must register, open

records and go on using manually stored information without check.

He accepted that the Government could not implement a strict concept of data protection for every company which stored manual records, if it went down the route of registration and a register. However, it was possible for the Government to choose a different route, offering a wider coverage of information like a code of conduct for data users enforceable in law so that individuals who had information about them misused could have recourse to the courts. Then it would be possible to include small companies.

Mr David Ennals (Norwich, North Lab) calling for the debate, said consideration should also be given to the damaging remarks made about the bureau by the minister when he queried its management and where the money went.



Whitelaw: No vast quango



Hattersley: More positive

their data to inquiries and correct errors, but there was no way in which the individual could be sure that he had proper redress or proper recourse if the information was misused.

Most often he would not know about it, and if he did, there would be no opportunity to put the matter right.

The tribunals were there exclusively to protect computer companies. If a company was prevented from registering it could appeal to the tribunal, but if users believed that a company was restrictive towards its behaviour or conduct, they could not appeal to the tribunal. Labour MP Tony Cook said:

All the recommendations he had for police for crime prevention, would be registered and accessible by the registrar. But access could not be given to all police records if the prevention and detection of crime was not to be put at risk. It would be nonsense to provide a data subject with access to his file which related to police suspicions about his criminal activities.

The recommendations provided in the Bill were a further indication of the Government's determination to produce an effective data protection scheme, but one with data users could comply without unnecessary inconvenience and expense.

The Government's proposals on data protection had been submitted with the aim of meeting people's fears in the face of advancing technology and of keeping Britain in step with overseas data protection practice.

The balance between the demands of data protection on one hand and the legitimate objectives of data users on the other was a delicate one.

The Bill, by enabling Britain to ratify the Council of Europe Convention, and ensuring that there was no risk of sanctions that would inhibit the transfer of personal data to the United Kingdom, would safeguard the increasing number of concerns that depended on the free international interchange of computerized data, and so safeguard many jobs that existed in that area.

This is a Bill (he said) to meet public concern, to bring us into step with Europe and to protect international commerce and trading interests. And it gets out to achieve those objectives in a way that places no more burdens on users than are necessary. This is an important Bill. It is also a sensible, realistic and pragmatic one.

Mr Hattersley, chief Opposition spokesman on home affairs (Birmingham, Sparkbrook) said:

The Bill contained exclusions too sweeping and exemptions too easily manipulated by those who wished to frustrate the whole process of a data protection Bill. Labour hoped to include a code of conduct for data users to complement the Bill in its committee stage.

The main objection to exclusions from the Bill was the Government's decision not to include anything concerning manually processed data.

He accepted that the Government's record on privacy information as he advocated the proposals in this Bill and as he continued to support some of the recommendations of the Police and Criminal Evidence Bill was that he showed a reckless disregard for the privacy of other people's confidential information and a determination to keep the Government's data just as secret as he or the Government chose at any one time.

Labour believed the balance ought to be struck differently. The individual needed protection in two ways: first, private information relevant to him or his organization; second, information possessed by the state which might be detrimental to the individual. He made it clear that he had no objection to the Bill.

Mr Gwydir (Cannock, Cannock) said he had serious doubts whether the registrar and his small staff would be able to cope with the incredible size of the area covered and whether he could make any impact. Some of the exemptions covered the areas about which he was worried.

Mr Patrick McNair-Wilson (New Forest, G) said he was worried if the Bill were truly relevant today if they had been drawn up in the light of committee recommendations published in 1978. Technology had taken giant steps since then.

No debate on CAB cash

A call for an emergency debate on the decision by Dr Gerald Vaughan-Morgan, the Minister of State for Commonwealth Affairs, to withdraw a grant of only £10,000 from the National Crisis Advice Bureau.

The bureau provided a magnificent national service and last year had handled more than five million cases, an increase of 300,000 over the previous year.

The three complaints from the minister had been carefully examined and found to be groundless. One concerned Mrs Joan Ruddock, the chairperson of CND. She had never taken time from her work through her involvement with CND and she had the full support of her colleagues nationally and locally.

Officers of the bureau had been appalled that their reputation when he queried its management and where the money went.

The Bishop of Southwark (The Rt Rev Ronald Bowly) said the churches had greatly involved in the housing association movement.

Mr Bowly, for the Opposition, said the Bill was previously disrupted during the following year, 1980, by the Housing Act. This second attempt at housing legislation should surely have provided some answer to current housing and construction problems.

With 366,000 unemployed construction workers, surplus building materials and growing housing shortages, the Bill served only to compound the irrelevance of many of the 1980 measures.

Although there were well over 10,000 council house sales each year the Government was coming back with a Bill designed to squeeze every last drop out of the right to buy. Few proposals in recent legislation had aroused such a flood of protests as Clause 2 amending the 1980 Act to confer the right to buy on certain secure tenants of charitable housing associations.

The Earl of Selkirk (C) asked whether the Government was wise to annoy a large number of people who were engaged in doing what the Government had asked them to do.

The Bishop of Southwark said the clause would introduce great uncertainty and uncertainty into housing associations as to whether future grants would have retrospective conditions attached to them. It would create inequality between tenants often in the same property and diminish the housing available to the total intake of feed from food was well within the limits set by the World Health Organization.

There were stringent regulations about the lead content of vegetables and other food offered for sale which accounted for the major part of the average diet.

Lord Wallace of Coslany said this was an undesirable improvement and an unnecessary answer to a matter which had caused considerable public concern.

The Government seemed to be dodging the issue. There was a royal commission study whose report was due on April 18.

Lord Gidley denied that the Government was dodging the issue.

The Government would study the report of the royal commission on environmental pollution with great care. The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food had two research projects in hand on the uptake of lead in vegetables from lead in the air. This showed that the Government took the matter seriously.

Doctors drop action to block Data Protection Bill

By Francis Gibbs, Legal Affairs Correspondent

Doctors have dropped their threat to block the progress of the Government's Data Protection Bill on the ground that it fails to cover non-computerized records.

The British Medical Association, which has a strong lobby among MPs, had condemned the Bill's provisions as "a nonsense", as they would not afford protection for the vast majority of medical records stored on manual filing systems.

The Bill, which had its second reading in the Commons yesterday, is designed to protect individuals against the misuse of personal data stored on computers.

But yesterday the BMA said that during the Bill's passage through the Lords it had decided to concentrate on removing defects in the proposals as they stood, rather than to widen them still further.

A BMA spokesman said: "This Bill is at best neutral, and at worst positively harmful. We

do not wish therefore to extend what is inadequate legislation to cover all medical records."

Instead the BMA will concentrate its opposition on the Bill's provision which allows medical information stored on computers to be secretly disclosed for such purposes as crime prevention or detection.

A patient's notes could be transferred to the police by a third person without either the patient's or the doctor's knowledge or consent. The information might then be held indefinitely.

The Bill, which will enable the Government to ratify the European convention that protects citizens against abuses in the storage of personal data on computers, is the first step in this country towards a privacy of medical records.

First, it sets up a new, Crown-appointed post of Registrar, who with a small staff will have the job of enforcing the new laws and their principles.

More teachers despite fewer pupils

By David Walker

Despite an unprecedented drop in the number of pupils, the Inner London Education Authority has this year increased its staff to its highest total ever.

Secondary schools numbers fell by more than 6 per cent between 1982 and '83 and primary numbers by nearly 3 per cent, yet the authority's total staff increased by less than 1 per cent. But in a newspaper circulated in all inner London homes this week, the authority promises that more staff will be employed during the year.

According to Mr Bryan Davies, leader of the Labour-controlled authority, the extra

staff are needed "to protect its children's rights to a decent education". Staff were needed for the ILEA's expanded programme for children aged 16-19 and to give additional help to children from disadvantaged backgrounds.

He said that if the ILEA had followed government guidelines on its spending the education service would have been "shattered".

To pay for its £869m budget for 1983-84 the ILEA increased the precept it levied in 1982 by 8.4 per cent.

Householders in the inner London borough pay, on average, £4.50 a week for the

ILEA, the most expensive local education service in the country. But the greater part of its income comes from rates of commercial firms and industry.

New figures for the present financial year show that for every ten teachers in the ILEA, there are eight back-up staff, including clerks and caretakers.

According to figures collected by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy, the ILEA spends more on ancillary staff than any other council.

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Diplomatic crisis returns to the Middle East; Moscow steps up anti-Zionism drive; Gulf War flares again

Arafat facing ominous future with Syria in control of the PLO

From Robert Fisk, Beirut

Mr Yassir Arafat, the Palestine Liberation Organization chairman, was flying to Sweden last night on an unofficial visit with his guerrilla movement divided as never before, his political independence ceded to Syria and his personal hopes for a Palestinian settlement in ruins.

He is to fly to Amman on Thursday, but several other PLO officials are reported to be travelling in haste to Damascus, where only 24 hours earlier, the Abu Nidal extremist Palestinian faction had gleefully claimed responsibility for the murder of one of Mr Arafat's closest colleagues. The presumably wanted to be on the winning side.

No comment came from Mr Arafat yesterday on the melancholy conclusion to his talks with King Hussein and the effective failure of President Reagan's peace initiative. Nor was any likely to be forthcoming. In private King Hussein is said angrily to have concluded that Mr Arafat failed as a leader because he ultimately placed the survival of the PLO above the country he aspires to rule. The PLO's integrity turned out to be more important to its leadership than the land they sought on the West Bank.

Campaign puts Soviet Jews in fear

From Richard Owen
Moscow

Soviet Jews are worried by a growing anti-Zionist campaign, which they fear heralds a new wave of officially-inspired antisemitism.

The campaign is being spearheaded by General David Dragunsky, a veteran of the Second World War who is himself Jewish. He has made several television appearances to assail Zionism in powerful language. Attacks on Zionism have in the past been used by the Soviet authorities to encourage resentment of Jews and Jewish emigration to Israel.

Last week General Dragunsky appeared on television with two other Soviet Jewish figures, Academician Martin Kacabnik and Professor Samuil Zivs, to launch an "Anti-Zionist Committee of the Soviet Public". He linked Zionism to "the atrocities of Israeli aggression in Lebanon" and called on "all nationalities of the Soviet Union to struggle against this man-hating ideology".

Two weeks ago Tass issued a statement signed by a number of prominent Soviet Jews urging the Soviet leadership to "combat Zionism", which the statement described as "a concentration of chauvinism and racial intolerance". The US State Department said it was "deplorable that the Soviet regime should now enlist people of Jewish ancestry to participate in its anti-Semitic clarifies".

A number of Jewish writers have since come forward to condemn publicly "the bloody crimes of Zionism backed by American imperialism".

There have also been increasingly vehement condemnations in the Soviet press of Israeli policy in Lebanon and repeated warnings of an impending Israeli attack on Syria.

Jewish sources said the campaign was clearly intended to discourage Jewish emigration.

Andropov gets some American fan mail

From Our Own Correspondent, Moscow

Pravda gave extracts from letters which it said Mr Yuri Andropov had received from American citizens in praise of Soviet policies, and published a photograph of some of them to prove they were authentic.

The paper first dipped into Mr Andropov's mailbag in February, when it quoted from letters sent from the United States criticizing president Reagan's arms build-up and calling for peace with Russia. Enclosed by a suggestion in *The New York Times* that some of the letters might not be authentic, *Pravda* yesterday

showed a selection from the latest batch with American stamps and postmarks on the envelope.

It said letters had come to the Kremlin from all over America, from Florida to Ohio and from New York to California.

"I believe you when you say you wish Americans and their families well", wrote Mr Walter Kaiser from the American Legion, New Port Richey, Florida. "Let us prove to the world that great countries can live in peace". A 14-year-old boy called Andrew Brotnan from Lincoln, Nebraska, said he

Dioxin company defended by Swiss minister

Berne (Reuter) - Switzerland defended the chemical firm of Hoffmann-La Roche against allegations that it had concealed information from the West German Government on the whereabouts of two tonnes of highly-toxic dioxin waste.

The waste, from the disaster at the Hoffmann-La Roche chemical plant at Seveso in Italy in 1976, was moved from Italy last year to an undisclosed destination.

Mr Alphonse Egli, the Swiss Minister of the Interior, said yesterday that he was convinced that Hoffmann-La Roche had behaved honourably.

French ease tourist restrictions

From Diana Geddes, Paris

The Government has made important concessions over its planned restrictions on foreign travel by French tourists after talks with travel agents who had claimed that thousands of their jobs were threatened. Pre-paid package holidays are no longer to be subject to any cost limit.

Under the measures first announced by the Government as part of its austerity package on March 25 French tourists were to be restricted to spending a maximum of two thousand francs (£130) per adult per year on foreign holidays, plus 1,000 francs per child. The use of credit cards abroad was prohibited.

The ferocity of the ensuing outcry took the Government

to go for package holidays abroad, with no limit on cost, provided those holidays were advertised before March 25, and still be entitled to take with them 250 francs per person over the age of nine and 1,000 francs for each younger child, plus a further 1,000 francs in French currency per person. The cost of air fares or other travel was not to be included in the limit.

That meant that a family of four with two teenage children could spend up to 12,000 francs or nearly £1,100 on their foreign holiday, excluding the cost of getting there. Businesses were to be limited to spending 1,000 francs a day in foreign currency.

The latest concessions go much further. Tourists can now go for package holidays abroad,



Setback for President: Mr Reagan explains to White House reporters the failure of his Middle East peace plan while Mr George Shultz, Secretary of State, looks on.

Jordan tries to avert an open break

Bahrain (Reuter) - Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organization said yesterday that they would maintain normal relations, in what appeared to be attempts to prevent an outright split between King Hussein and the PLO.

Comments by both sides seemed designed to avert a break after a Jordanian statement blaming the PLO for the breakdown of talks on a joint approach to peace negotiations in the Middle East.

In Amman, Mr Adnan Abu Odeh, the Minister of Information, said that Jordan would continue to conduct normal relations with the PLO and that the organization's offices would still function in Jordan.

"Our bilateral relations are developing regardless of differences over the Reagan initiative", Mr Faruk Kaddumi, head of the PLO's political department said.

In Bahrain, a senior official of the Gulf Cooperation Council said that Saudi Arabia and its Gulf allies supported the Jordanian statement. "Jordan should not be forced to take any decision on peace moves unilaterally... any decision on the issue should be endorsed by the Arabs."

Beyond confirming that Mr Sharon met Major Haddad at his house in Marjayoun, a military spokesman based in Metulla refused to provide any further details about the trip, which is believed to have included meetings with senior Israeli officers based in Lebanon where they are facing a military assault.

By coincidence, Mr Sharon's arrival in the border zone came less than 24 hours after the highest number of attacks against Israeli targets mounted on a single day for several months. In six separate incidents on Sunday, one Israeli soldier was killed and three others injured.

The ambushes continued unabated yesterday when another Israeli soldier was wounded after his armoured personnel carrier ran over a land mine planted in the eastern sector. Military sources claimed later that the mine had been planted by Palestinian guerrillas operating from behind Syrian lines where a total of 7,000 Palestinians are now estimated to be dug in alongside Syrian troops.

Despite the criticisms, Mr Sharon has been reinstated in the two key Cabinet committees covering defence and the Lebanon talks, a move which has attracted fierce criticism from the opposition Labour Party and dismayed senior members of the Reagan Administration.

Although Mr Sharon has said remarkably little in public since his demotion, he is reported to have become increasingly critical in private of some of the moves made by his successor Mr Moshe Arens. Mr Sharon has remained a firm advocate of Israel's hard line against American pressure for compromise over the long drawn out withdrawal negotiations which continued yesterday in the Israeli resort of Netanya.

Internal affairs of the other side.

Bahrain (Reuter) - Iran, launching a new offensive in its Gulf war with Iraq, said yesterday it had recaptured a large area of Iranian territory and killed or wounded 3,000 Iraqi soldiers.

Iraq confirmed the offensive but said its forces beat off most of the Iranian thrust and captured 300 Iranians.

Both sides reported that fierce fighting continued yesterday in an area between Iraq's Missan province and the Iranian provinces of Ilam and Khorasan. There had been a relative lull in recent weeks in the two-and-a-half-year-old war.

There had also been speculation recently that they might agree to at least a limited ceasefire to allow the capping of damaged Iranian oil wells which have been leaking thousands of barrels of crude oil into the gulf.

The result of the leak has been a huge slick extending far across the strategic waterway and endangering the coasts of

countries around the Gulf. Iran says the wells were hit by Iraqi fire in February and March.



Israel had known all along that nothing would come of the negotiations.

Mr Philip Habib, President Reagan's envoy, arrived in Cairo on Sunday night, for talks with officials. It was pointed out that his return had been scheduled before the decision of Jordan and Jordan accepted the Reagan initiative.

In Damascus, Syrian officials and the state-controlled media made no comment on the Jordanian move. Syria has repeatedly criticized Jordanian-PLO cooperation. It backs the most radical Palestinian guerrilla groups.

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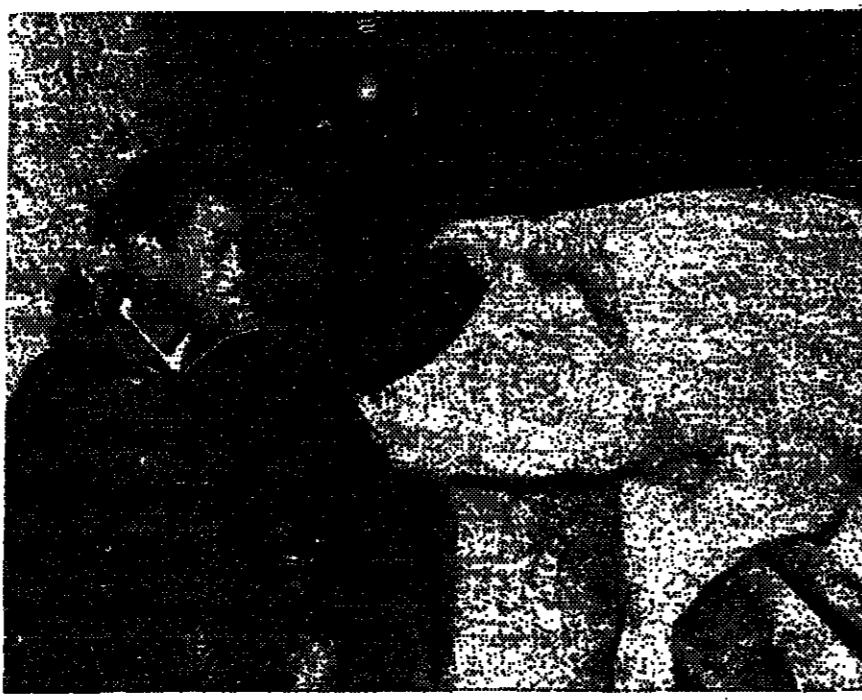
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SPECTRUM



Somewhere east of Okehampton, John Young finds a farm where children can muck out the stables, feed the ducks and forget television

Where city and country meet

The rain is advancing in cold, violent gusts, hiding the hills and reducing visibility to almost nothing as we pick our way along the narrow high-banked Devon lanes. Somewhere east of Okehampton we are halted by a tar-laying machine occupying the entire width of the road; retracing our steps and taking a still more circuitous route, we arrive only a few minutes late at one of those medium-sized Victorian Gothic piles that look as though they were always intended to end their days as preparatory schools or convalescent homes.

In fact, Nethercott House is nothing of the sort: it is the headquarters of a unique project to bring children from what are conventionally known as deprived inner city areas into contact with rural life, encompassed not in picture postcards from the National Trust but in a muddy and frequently malodorous working farm.

Farms for City Children was founded eight years ago by Michael Morpurgo, a one-time Sandhurst graduate, army officer and later teacher in Kent, who has since learned to farm and earns a partial living as a writer of children's books (his latest, *War Horses*, was runner up for this year's Whitbread prize).

He and his wife, Clare, who was also trained as a teacher, had for some time cherished the idea of a project which would give urban children some understanding of what was for most of them a foreign country, inhabited by aliens. The opportunity to realise their ambition arrived

providentially when their Land Rover got stuck in a ditch and had to be rescued by a tractor belonging to a local farmer, John Ward.

Casual acquaintance quickly blossomed into a business relationship. The Morpurgos, who had bought some land adjoining the Wards' farm, offered to make it available for extra grazing if, in return, John and his sons, David and Graham, would agree to groups of noisy urchins trailing after them as they milked the cows and made the hay.

If they needed any further convincing that their dreams and destiny were in time, Nethercott House itself came on to the market. "Originally we had intended to find somewhere nearer London and take children on a daily basis," Michael recalls. "But now we were able to offer them accommodation for a whole week at a time."

By the time we have finished lunch, the rain has cleared and the third year pupils of

the English Martyrs Roman Catholic primary school in Walworth, south east London, are ready for their daily round of farm tasks. Mary Paterson, one of the three teachers accompanying them, is on her twelfth visit. Asked if she sometimes feels more like a farmer than a teacher, she replies feelingly, "I wish I was." Not all of them feel the same way. The Morpurgos have unhappy memories of "stroppy" teachers who, in Michael's words, "did nothing but lean on their spades and complain."

"I used to dread confronting teachers who were not prepared to cooperate or to keep the children in order," Clare confesses. "But now it doesn't worry me in the slightest. In any case most of the schools come back each year, and we've had the chance to sort out the ones we don't want and tell them politely that they're not welcome."

The 40 or so children have been split

into three or four groups, and about a

dozen of them make their way down a muddy lane to the dairy, carrying pails and scrubbing brushes. Work in the dairy is accompanied by loud and spontaneous singing of "Daisy, Daisy", presumably in tribute to one of the cows, and "Old MacDonald's Farm."

Clare interposes the work with little lectures. The male donkey has been gelded so he cannot give his companion any more babies. One of the hens has a bald spot on its back where it has been attacked by the others, the penalty of being bottom of the pecking order. A bright red comb indicates when a bird is laying eggs.

Each week of hard, healthy work costs a child's parents, or in some cases the local education authority, £45. The Inner London authority has strongly supported the scheme, and most schools taking part are from London or Birmingham. "It is quite different from the usual sort of school outing to Butlin's or the Isle of Wight," Michael emphasizes. "The children come

here to work and to learn, and sometimes at first it's quite difficult for them to understand this."

Nethercott takes about 1,000 children a year, but the £45,000 or so they provide in income falls well short of the estimated running cost of at least £65,000. Some schools have been active in raising funds, and a Birmingham headmaster recently earned £600 by undertaking a sponsored walk from his school to the village of Idesleigh, about a mile from Nethercott. Other aid has come from a variety of charities and from the BBC, Capital Radio and Sotheby's.

There have been occasional groups of handicapped children which were, according to Michael, "a marvellous success". The kids were such fun. The ironic thing is that if we were catering just for handicapped children, we would have no difficulty raising funds. But when most of the time we're dealing with just ordinary children, people tend to shrug their shoulders and Sotheby's.

imagine that the state looks after them, or should do."

Pigs are fed and piglets cuddled. Calves are released to race greedily to a pair of succulent cows. "Hey, that's a pedigree bull calf, it's worth £150, so don't kill it," Graham Ward shouts in mock alarm. "How many teats has a cow got? When do hamsters come from? What's a female sheep called?" Hands shoot up, faces beam, hay is fed to heifers, fresh straw is laid over carpets of dung. "Not quite like the picture books, is it?" Graham grins.

Next morning the sun is shining between scudding black clouds as we set off in gumboots across the muddy slopes to bring supplementary rations to the cows in a steep distant field. Mary O'Sullivan, the school's headmistress, cheerfully lumping a sack of hay, says that on her first visit four years ago the Nethercott scheme was seen as a one-week experience, soon to be forgotten. Now it is integrated into a whole programme of environmental studies, each independent with the others. The children's enthusiasm is astonishing. "They haven't watched television all week and, do you know, no one has ever once mentioned it."

Back in the main house, Lorraine Boyle, 10, produces her diary. "On Monday we stayed in and made the beds and swept the yard and took the horses down to the field and fed the ducks, chickens and cockerels and took the donkeys down to the field and cleaned out the horses' stables and fed them and stayed in that night and had a rest. It was good that day."

In Tom Stonier's post-industrial future, surplus wealth will be distributed by a system of negative income tax

Visions of a world gone sane

By Neil Lyndon

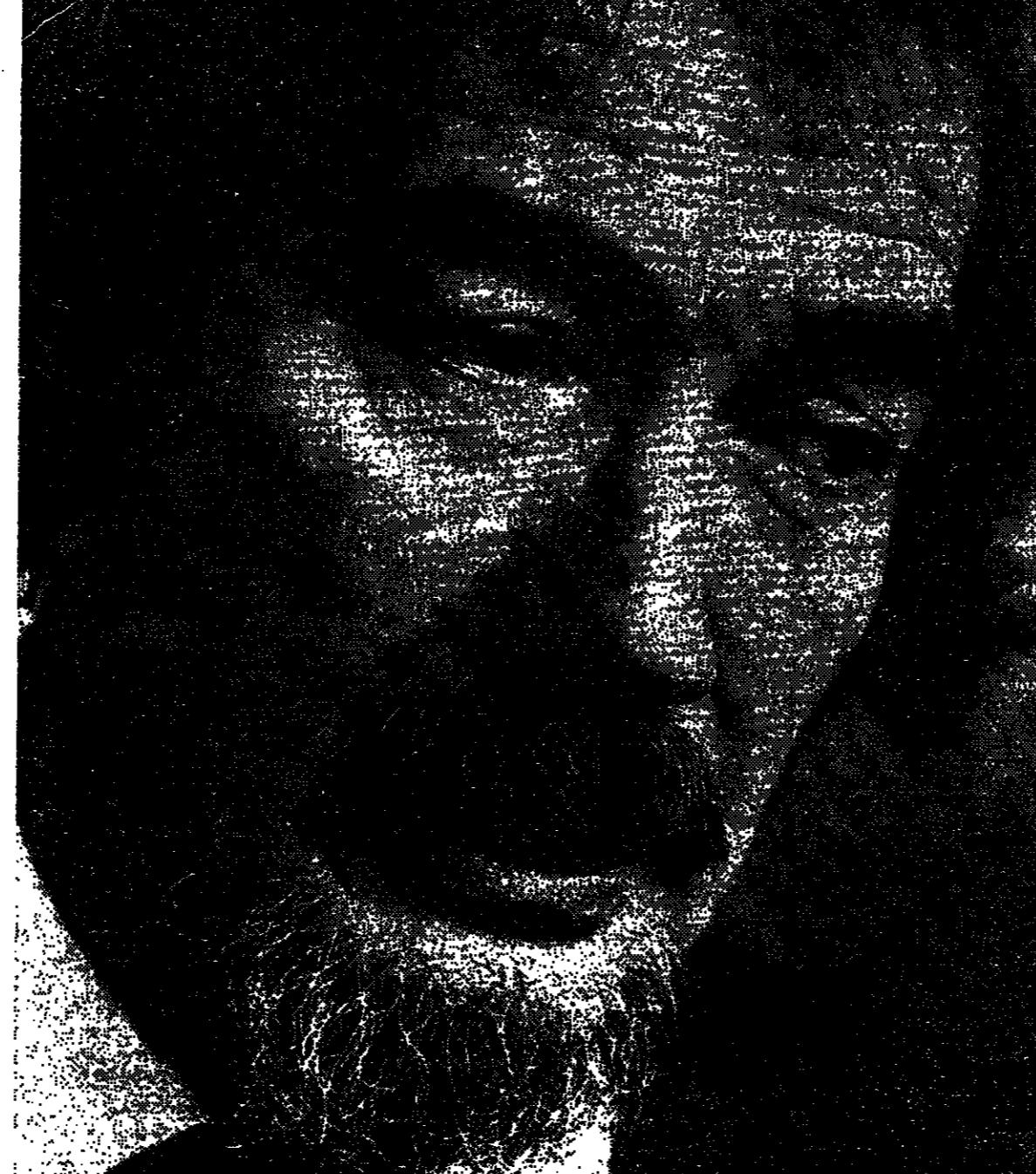
Professor Tom Stonier might say of himself the words with which Saul Bellow's Herzog was introduced: "If I'm out of my mind, it's all right with me."

Stonier and the fictional Herzog share many similarities: both are American Jews, academics, vague in manner and disordered with possessions but possessed by a mania to impose a compensating order. Both are volatile, even garrulous, endlessly inventive and always losing points of order, departure and conclusion in cascades of parentheses and by-the-ways. Tough cities of the north engage the affections of both: Herzog's Chicago is Stonier's Bradford, where he is Professor of Science and Society.

But where Herzog sailed in circles on a personal odyssey of introspection and self-examination, Stonier has embarked upon a voyage of discovery into seas of cosmological knowledge; and he has addressed his mind to, among other topics, the future of civilization, the economic development of the West, the end of all war, the substitution of natural energy sources for mineral fuels, and the growth of cancer cells in plants. Like one of Les Dawson's characters, Stonier can be imagined appearing on *Mastermind* and giving his chosen subject as "The Universe and all its contents".

On his new book, *The Wealth of Information*, he says: "It is an effort to kill off economic superstition and an attempt to focus a national discussion on the means to get out of the present economic mess, using post-industrial thinking."

Stonier's book takes its title and a part of its intellectual direction from Adam Smith's *The Wealth of Nations*, acting as a complementary voice to that key work of economic description and applying some of its methods, if not its terms, to the present day. Stonier says that where Smith wrote, in 1776, at the decisive moment of transition in Britain from an agrarian to an industrial society, we find ourselves today at an analogous point of transition from an industrial to a post-industrial society. In that post-industrial society, he says, information



Information, Professor Stonier says, is the means by which to regenerate Britain's prosperity

is the decisive commodity, displacing "land, labour and capital as the most important input into modern productive systems."

Stonier acknowledges no need – as in the models of the left – for the protection by tariff of Britain's heavy industries: "Let steel go, let automobiles go," he declares. The developing countries of the world should, he says, be the suppliers of industrial production to such post-industrial societies as Britain.

At the same time, Stonier antagonizes the Thatcherites in reversing the dictum of Adam Smith that the interference of government inhibits the growth of wealth: government in a post-industrial society, Stonier says, is not to be seen as a consumer of wealth but as the key force for investment in the knowledge industries which create wealth. As might be expected of a university professor, especially one faced, as Stonier is, with the closure of his department following government spending cuts, he thinks that the expansion of the higher education system is essential to Britain's transition to a post-industrial economy; and that spending on universities should not be considered philanthropic but directly productive of wealth.

What does he mean when he says that information is wealth? A vast and messy multitude of things, apparently. The information which creates a robot which, in turn, performs a productive task is wealth. The computer systems which maintain the electronic flow of credit are a form of wealth. The silicon-chip technology by which a desert can be irrigated and made to bloom is a form of wealth: "Wealth," he says, "is created when a non-resource is converted into a resource as a result of applying information."

The man who has taken on and contradicted all the leading contemporary theories of economic management is not, by early training, an economist (and thus he appears shaky on some elements of classical economics, such as prices). Now 56, he took his university education, at Drew and Yale, in microbiology.

During the late 1950s and the

and foresight are weapons and tools by which catastrophes may be averted. "If you know enough," says Stonier, "you can alter the path of human development."

This axiom, among others, places Tom Stonier as a Utopian of the old European schools, one who believes that social ills may not be intrinsic to human life but may be alleviated by applied reason and understanding. For instance, he supposes that the ancient antagonism of the people of Northern Ireland would soon evaporate if the proper order of post-industrial investment was made there – in education, in the new information industries, in the use of natural sources of energy, in agriculture and in fish-farming. In his book, he succinctly derides such a futile and cost-inefficient investment in conventional industry as De Lorean Motor Cars, showing how the £67m invested there to provide 2,000 jobs might, applied to the education system, create 10 times that level of employment. On this issue he speaks from a firm platform of direct personal knowledge: in Bradford, traditionally one of the industrial powerhouses of Britain, the largest employer today is the council, closely followed by the university.

Economists of all conventional schools – Keynesians and monetarists alike – might say that a society so lopsided as Bradford in its bias towards services unproductive of materials and commodities (wealth as it has been known) cannot stand. Stonier would answer that they have failed to grasp a cardinal shift in the economy. "Within 30 years," he says, "it will take no more than 10 per cent of the labour force to produce all of society's material needs – all food, clothing, textiles, furniture, appliances, automobiles, housing, et cetera."

At the end of our conversation, as at the end of his new book, Tom Stonier spoke of further visions which he blurred with an embarrassed reticence, lest he be thought a crank or crackpot: a vision, for example, of a post-industrial society so wealthy that it can, like Alaska in 1980, afford a negative income-tax and distribute surplus revenues in cash to its citizens. "I believe that we are witnessing the beginnings of a process as profound as the origin of life itself," he says.

If Tom Stonier is out of his mind, it seems to be all right with him; and he certainly does not seem to be harming anybody else. But what if he is right?

MOREOVER... Miles Kington

Keeping life's great goal in view

Hello. Phil Marsh here. The totally Reverend Phil Marsh. Football Adviser to the Church of England. Yes, Fund-raising Phil.

I'm here today to make an appeal on behalf of this week's good cause. I wonder if you can guess what that is? Do you know what needs support more desperately than anything else in British life today?

That's right, British football. Once upon a time, football was the most popular leisure activity in Britain, after religion. Every week, twenty million people would turn up at Old Trafford, and that was just on the days when Manchester United were playing away. But now football ranks 89th in the list of British sports, lower even than stamp collecting, lawnmower racing and bridge-baiting. I can't be right.

And now things may be even worse, if football disappears from television. In future you may switch on for the match of the day to find yourself watching basketball on ice from Stockholm or underwater surfing from Australia. This can't be right, either.

One of our basic human rights, along with the right to strike and the right to waste time in the last five minutes, is the right to switch on the television at any time of night or day and see a man called Brian saying: "More football after the break."

We at the Church of England Home for Distressed Footballovers have already seen the effect on young players. There are young men here who have dedicated their life, between 19 and 21, to football.

Meanwhile, though, all we ask for football is a million pounds each. It isn't much, but it's a start.

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 36)

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SOLUTION TO NO 35: 1 Unconfirmed. 9 Indulge. 10 Taste. 11 Ash. 13 Afr. 16 Par. 17 Virile. 18 Inca. 20 Fern. 22 Stucco. 23 Gau. 25 Mow. 26 Libra. 29 Amaz. 30 Precinct. 31 Nod. 32 Solace. 34 Ova. 15 Whistle. 19 Chamber. 20 Fog. 24 Augst. 25 Marc. 26 Way. 27 Foot.

FASHION by Suzy Menkes

THE OTHER CHIC

The recent fashion collections offer fascinating new evidence for the theory that there is a correlation between the hemline and the economy.

In Robert Beckman's newly published book *The Downwave* (Milestone Publications £7.95), the economist elaborates on the idea that louche and provocative fashions (low necklines and thigh-high skirts) reflect expanding economies and that a downturn reduces this "erotic capital", sending hemlines modestly downwards and necklines to Puritan heights. The "hemline indicator" has been traced back over a span of 200 years.

But there is now no single fashion style. The wide divergence in skirt lengths between the different fashion capitals which I discussed last summer was even more marked for the autumn season. In particular, the French, to the surprise of the fashion world, almost unanimously dropped their hemlines to mid-calf. This fall (in contrast to the short, sexy clothes currently in the French shops) occurred in the same week that President Mitterrand was putting a metaphoric corset on the economy. The expansive socialist programme of spending was at an end and so was the short-lived mood for sexually utilitarian fashion.

Meanwhile, back in Britain, the London designers, equally unanimously, raised their hemlines. Economists can work out a suitable scenario for Britain's future performance...

"We are united by colour," says painter and weaver Kaffe Fassett of the two artist friends who share his exhibition opening in Covent Garden today.

Kaffe Fassett is best known for his knits - rainbows of colour that clothe the famous, like Lauren Bacall, Ali McGraw and John Schlesinger, and also inspire more earthbound knitters to experiment with pattern and colour.

The magic carpet coats and jackets - all designed for both sexes - form the core of the selling exhibition, but Kaffe Fassett's rich patterns and colours are also on show in his paintings and needlepoint. Alongside are Richard Womersley's densely-textured rugs and blankets and luminous photographs by Steve Lovi, many of them still lifes of Kaffe's work.

The three artists work together and "spark each other off," says Fassett who came to London from Big Sur, California in the 1960s. The exhibition has been mounted by Hugh Shurman who has worked with Kaffe Fassett to produce tapestry kits and more recently knitting packs, both of which will be on sale to encourage the rest of us to emulate the artists. Kaffe Fassett at Seven Dials Gallery, 56 Earlham Street, Covent Garden, London WC2 until April 23 (closed Sundays).

It started as a brief homage to Noel Coward. Now the selection of chic silk dressing gowns that Simpson, Piccadilly, put on sale beside a video recording of the recent television documentary, have proved a West End sell-out. Any man who fancies a slither of wrap-round silk or a elegant towelling robe (in a selection of fruit sorbet colours at £50) will find the ground floor of the store stamped with Coward's fashion trademark.

The simple, tailored dressing gown, so difficult to find in frillier female lingerie departments, is an all-British fashion story, and I suspect that many of Simpson's customers will consider it too good to be left to the men.

Ingenious cotton weaves, richly coloured wools, luxuriously decorated textiles and boldly patterned knits were all on display last week at Fabrics, the annual British fabric fair now in its fifth year.

New this season was a special stand devoted to the imaginative work of four young designers, all award winners in the Royal Society of Arts Design Bursaries.

Julia Witten's collection of cotton weaves with a slightly worn effect was given the main award. The 22-year-old textile designer used particular inspiration as she followed the brief to create fabrics that could be made by a small production unit - such as she herself hopes to become when she leaves Brighton polytechnic this year.



Left: Sunshine separates. Silver grey linen sleeveless top £45, slim half-lined skirt £59. Also in peach, rose pink, pale blue and honey beige from Roland Klein, 26 Brook Street W1, Harvey Nichols and Ambers of Amersham. Skirt also Suzanne, Cobham. Earrings by Monty Don for Roland Klein, Silver, blue and black triple chain belt, £15, and metal twist bangles £4 each, by Sheila Teague from Detail, Endell Street, WC2; mail order from Sheila Teague, 45/46 Charlotte Road, EC2. White and black Chanel-style sling-backs £32 from Hobbs, 47 South Molton Street W1, 84 Kings Road SW3, 9 Hampstead High Street.

Above left: The basic suit. In grey and black stripe linen and silk mix with long collarless jacket and mid-calf button-through skirt (or alternative skirt to the knee). Price £149. Black and white spotted silk fly front top £59. All from Roland Klein Brook Street W1, Taylor and Hadow, Beauchamp Place SW3, Ambers, Amersham, Frazer, Glasgow. Pearl and crystal necklace by Monty Don for Roland Klein. Sparkle bar brooch by Corocraft. Earrings by Butler and Wilson. Black satin evening shoes with bow ties £95 from Manolo Blahnik, 49/51 Old Church Street, London, WC2. Below: Green and black pure silk dress with long sleeves and soft waist, £195 in various colours. From Roland Klein, 26 Brook Street, W1, Selfridges, W1, Harvey Nichols SW1, Suzanne, Cobham, Surrey and Ambers, Amersham.

Bucks. Striped silk and linen jacket as suit above. Black silk boater by Viv Knowland £49 from Harvey Nichols, Knightsbridge. Black multi-chain belt and silvered earrings by Sheila Teague from Detail, Endell Street, WC2; mail order from 45/46 Charlotte Road, EC2. Bone tights by Elbow. Spotted shawls with cable ties by Carville Unglik from Rayne 66 New Bond Street, W1, Harrods, Harvey Nichols and selected branches of Rayne.

Hair by Clifford Brake for Michael John. Make-up by Clifford Brake for Charles of the Ritz

Photographs by John Swannell.



Roland Klein: a French background and a feel for fashion

Best shop assistant in town



Roland Klein plays with his collection like a child with a Rubik cube. Nimble fingers work skirts, suits, jackets, dresses in ever-changing combinations.

"Everything goes with anything," he says. "I work from piece to piece and from season to season to build up a wardrobe. It all follows on."

Almost every working day, Klein practices his skills at putting clothes together by serving in his small London shop, where uninitiated customers must think that they have stumbled by chance on the best sales assistant in town. He says that it is his way of going direct to his public where "they can see the way I am thinking and the way I like to work." He also, he admits, actually enjoys fitting clothes to customer and has a feel for fashion that may come partly from his native French background. It is also the fruit of years of quiet apprenticeship before he emerged ten years ago with his own label and more recently with his own shop.

"Being French, one has one's feet on the ground," he explains in his Gallic lit untouched by years in England. "A French woman only buys a colour and a line that lasts from one season to the next. She is practical, careful about money. The French are a solid people."

Roland Klein also had a solid fashion training at a classic couture school in Paris, where the star pupils of the previous year was the young Yves Saint Laurent and his contemporaries were Jean-Louis Scherzer and Tam Giudicelli.

Klein went on to work in haute couture in the tailoring room at Dior and for three years at Jean Patou, where he was assistant to Karl Lagerfeld. "He was wonderful to work with," says Klein. "He is a very nice person, and also an artist, interested in everything, mad about open, music and painting. I learned a lot from him."

To understand Roland Klein's clothes, you must look neither for flamboyant statements of style nor for the rather English decorations of sweet frills. I see in his harmony of line, cut and proportion an

elegance which springs from the couture training of 20 years ago. His new autumn collection, enthusiastically received a month ago, is based on just one simple theme - the blouson - and on a quiet colour palette of cream and grey. His current collection is played out in shades of grey, black and white, using stripes and spots as the only patterns, so that literally every item you see in the pictures slots in with something else, according to your own taste and style.

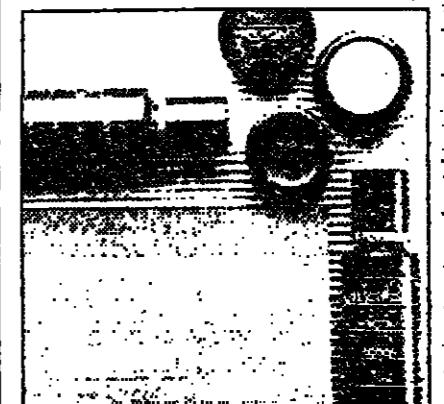
"My target customer is a business woman who works and travels, who has children and takes holidays," he explains. "She takes a lot of care choosing her clothes, but when she puts them on she forgets about them. I hate clothes that are fussy or don't hold together properly when you move or bend down."

His collection comes into that vanishing category of clothes that are properly made and finished in good fabrics, and in a price bracket that is halfway between high fashion and high street. The entire spring wardrobe photographed on this page adds up to just under £700, with the average outfit around £150 (or less if you choose the man-made alternatives to pure silk).

The clothes are made by his parent company, Marcel Fenez, whom he joined when the "swinging sixties" acted as a fashion magnet drawing him to London. It is just ten years since the company's founder, Marcel Fenez, had the foresight to give Roland Klein his own label, thus preventing the usual flight of a strong designer to set up on his own. The shop in Brook Street was opened two years ago as part of the process of bringing the designer out of the shadows.

Now the shop has some star-studded customers (including the Princess of Wales, although Klein is too discreet to mention her). But he has the same zeal to communicate his clothes to customers in the Roland Klein boutiques at Harrods and Harvey Nichols, where he personally trains the staff and explains the clothes to them.

I told Roland Klein that his seminars of style were too good to give away. So he has decided to combine his own plan of a customer show with a fashion workshop in which he will explain how his clothes work together. I said that I would challenge all my readers who doubt that modern fashion can ever be for them, to come and see him in action. The shows will be on Thursday



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Tomorrow:
Wednesday Page
Luring ways with trout; Penny Perrick's Connemara Diary





The Third Greene

Those who watched Graham Greene's *J'accuse* programme on BBC 2 over Easter may wonder at the way the writer has sought publicity in the case of the French mafia, when before he has shunned it. No one should be surprised though at his appetite for litigation. There was, for instance, a fierce row in 1960, when Greene's little-remembered oldest brother Herbert raised a petition against the BBC's decision to end the nine o'clock radio news, an important feature of wartime life. The younger brother, Hugh Carleton Greene, had just become director-general of the BBC and Graham thought Herbert was trying to spoil things for Hugh. So he threatened to stop Herbert's allowance, a rather pitiful few shillings a week.

Herbert then presented the *Daily Mail* with a pile of Graham's boyhood diaries and letters, including a poem about how he disliked kissing his aunts. Graham was furious and got lawyers to squash the whole thing. Daniel Guy, whom Greene accused, has a tough adversary.

Turf accountant

Like Corbier, Simon Cawkwell, an accountant and keen punter, is known to his friends as Corky. He also shares with the eight-year-old chestnut gelding the distinction of having won at Aintree on Saturday. Seven weeks ago he put £200 on the horse at 25 to one and then, having seen him run at Cheltenham, staked another £800. Cawkwell, £25,000 richer, tells me he thought his luck might be in when on the day before the National he saw a French coach in Hanover Square. It carried the name "Corbier's Grand Raid."

Flying colours

The National Horseracing Museum find they have backed a useful couple of winners too. The museum's editor, Patricia Connor, and designer, Ivor Heal, have just carried off the European Exhibition of the Year award in Milan for their work on *The Vikings* in England exhibition, which was staged in Denmark in 1981 and York in 1982. Acquisitions for the museum, which the Queen opens at Newmarket on April 30, are still coming in. Among the latest are Fred Archer's travel bag and a pair of boots made for Lily Langtry, who was a regular at Newmarket.

● A Labour party worker in the Llwyd valley near Swansea put the occupations of four councillors seeking re-election in the space provided on their nomination papers for their party membership. As a result of the mistake the poor fellows will now appear on the ballot papers as the Retired Party.

Nuclear threshold

The Royal Institute of British Architects is to stage a formal debate tonight on the motion: "This house believes nuclear shelters to be a prudent precaution". I never thought it was an architect's function to advise a client as to whether he really needed whatever folly he was minded to build. The architect's job, surely, is to make it look good – especially if the building is likely to be the final monument to civilization as we know it.

Unfair dinkum

Spare a thought for Patrick Callig, author of *The Experiment*. In Australia recently for the *National Graphical Magazine* and the *Daily Telegraph*, he was exploring the outback when a dingo bit him in the behind, leaving a 10-inch scar. Callig is now back home in Co Cork, nursing himself with liberal doses of Irish whiskey.

● Among items on display in the Indian handicrafts shop of the Metropolitan Hotel, Dubai, is a piece labelled "solid coconut hand carved bowl". I am assured it does not come from the bottom end of the range.

Tropical crush

Mrs PHS is newly returned from Barbados, where she has been refurbishing her golden suntan in preparation for the launch this month of a book she has written. She stayed, grandly enough, one would have thought, at Glitter Bay, listed by René Lecler in his *The 300 Best Hotels in the World*.

Imagine her surprise, then, to discover that the carpet in her room was inhabited by worms – an inch or more long, black, thin, and rather easy to crush. The worms, she was told, are harmless and known as Christmas worms because their incursions are worst in the festive season.

Not keen on worms, even in the garden, my dear wife thought she might seek shelter at Sandridge, a hotel recommended on the BBC. "We have absolutely no worms", the manager assured her. "Our problem is crabs."

The Dangerous Sports Club's avanti-ski race down the Black Slalom course at St Moritz is safely over. Tommy Leigh-Pemberton, son of the governor-designate of the Bank of England, completed the course in a supermarket trolley on skis. Mike Boyd-Mansell survived a ski jump on a deck chair – though the canvas did not. Ken Rufus-Isaacs took the prize for most unusual descent – astride an inflatable doll on a sofa. A grand piano completed the course, upside down, but none matched the turn of speed shown by a kitchen chair, which completed the 500-metre run in 23 seconds.

PHS

Lebanon: Robert Fisk reports on the chilling parallels with Vietnam

When will the Israelis go?

Beirut
The Israeli soldiers were sitting in their company headquarters just off the Damascus Road, some leaning on chairs, others, lounging across military-issue beds. The faded cream walls were covered in the sort of obscene graffiti with which all armies embellish their front line positions. A kerosene heater sputtered away on the floor. Some of the soldiers were tired; all held opinions about the Lebanon war.

"Do you realize", a middle-aged medical orderly said, "that if we leave this part of Lebanon, chaos will follow. Of course we want President Gemayel to take control of Lebanon but he can't do it at the moment. He probably doesn't control more than two houses. And we know that multinational forces can't do the job." There was a ripple of unkind laughter around the room.

But was it worth it? Was it worth so many thousands of civilian deaths – was it worth more than 450 Israeli deaths – to come here to this dirty, half-ruined building on a Lebanese mountainside and sit here night after night, surrounded by real or potential enemies?

A soldier by the door spoke first. "Galilee was under constant attack", he said. "Our civilians were dying there and they lived in this tension day after day. We couldn't let that go on year after year. No one could. What could we do?" But why, then, did the Israelis go as far north as Beirut?

Two soldiers believed that Ariel Sharon, then Israeli Defence Minister, should have pushed on into west Beirut in the first week of the war. Another thought the Israeli army should have stopped at the Awali River, just north of Sidon. There were serious doubts. "There was a point", said a young reservist, "when we started thinking 'How far north? To Tripoli? To Ankara? Where are we going?' But we had to get the PLO out of Beirut."

The soldier by the door wanted to know why "our friend" America had turned against Israel. The doctor growled one word: "Weinberger."

Someone talked about destroying the PLO, but another, more reticent soldier interrupted him. "The word should be 'pressure', not 'destroy', he said. "The problem is not the Palestinians, the Israelis – but their leaders. There is only one way to stop the PLO doing these terroristic things – by making friends with the Palestinians."

In the whole company headquarters, only two of the soldiers belonged to the Peace Now movement, and the Israeli army is not about to walk out of Lebanon in protest against a futile war that has gone terribly wrong. But the odds are stacking up against Israel's soldiers here, and there are increasing signs that they know it.

Sometimes it is an image that provides the evidence: the convoys of Israeli buses driving fast up the main highways, the soldiers poking the rifle barrels, porcupine fashion, through the windows in preparation for an ambush, the trucks at both ends draped with machine guns and belt-fed ammunition – or the young soldier whom we found last week in the spring sunshine of the Bekaa Valley, watching a convoy recede into the distance.

"My jeep broke down," he told us as he stood, rifle at the ready, on the lonely roadside. "Who are you? Where are you from?" This was no victorious soldier on conquered land but a nervous, frightened lad, far from home and safety, amid the blood-red poppy fields of the Bekaa.

Palestinian and Lebanese guerrilla attacks in southern and central Lebanon are again increasing. Only last week, Finnish and Irish troops of the United Nations force in the south discovered two new arms caches containing grenades, ammunition, two mortars and a freshly-painted cannister of explosives. The army of guerrillas – the "terrorists" in Israeli terminology – have not been beaten after all.

The Israelis know it. Around the highway to Damascus, in the mountains of the Chouf, in much of southern Lebanon, Israel does not even control the countryside. Her troops maintain only a tenuous grip over the main roads. Despite the

army's much-publicized ability to withstand the effects of the Lebanese winter, the tracks of its Merkava and Centurion tanks are showing serious metal fatigue problems.

Strategically, the Israeli front line is a nonsense. Since the Sabra and Chataa massacres, the Israeli army has tried hard to dissociate itself from the Phalangists whom it once proclaimed as loyal allies, but Brigadier General Amnon Lishkin's 162nd Division has been left holding the road bridgehead around Beirut, the supply route which Sharon forged to the Phalange but which is now little more than a military embarrassment. Lishkin has withdrawn his armour from Beirut to the north and would like to pull back to Damour, south of the capital.

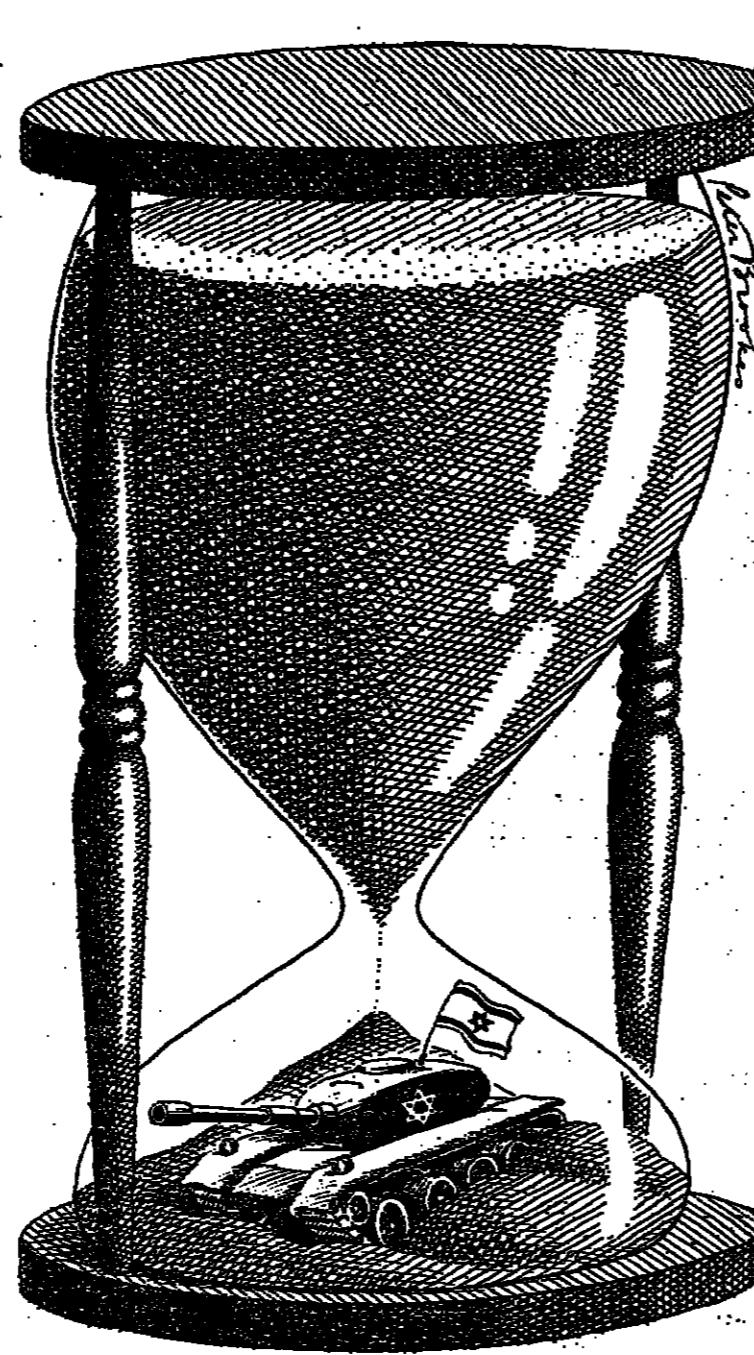
The Israeli army's press spokesman – still ensconced in the villa of a Saudi princess outside Beirut – are now producing broadsheets containing highly selective quotations from the report of the Kahan commission into the massacres, each designed to show that the Phalange should bear responsibility. But the same press office is still putting out the inaccurate and underestimated civ-

any's much-publicized ability to withstand the effects of the Lebanese winter, the tracks of its Merkava and Centurion tanks are showing serious metal fatigue problems.

Dany Chamoun, the son of the right-wing former president, has been down in Marjayoun paying court to Israel's ally, Major Saad Haddad. There is an alliance in the making here, for with Haddad's militia and Chamoun's political rehabilitation in Beirut, the Phalange could lose its control of the presidency now held by Amin Gemayel. And the Israelis are fast losing patience with Gemayel's intransigence.

But Lebanon is not a client state. It is a quagmire which the Israeli government is still reluctant to leave. Israel's new fortifications in the Bekaa suggest a prolonged stay, for years rather than months, and the possible partition of Lebanon. Mr Begin, who knows his Bible, is apparently not daunted by the Old Testament warnings to those who involve themselves in the violence of Lebanon.

However, there are Israeli soldiers who now suspect that their country is on the brink of a tragedy here. Lebanon is not another Vietnam but there are chilling parallels for the army which fought its way so eagerly up the road to Beirut last summer.



The Soar in Nottinghamshire: riverbank greenery or more wheat prairies?

Draining more cash for the farmers

£150m a year – money often spent drastically altering rivers and wet meadows in the name of agricultural production.

The Soar is a classic, and typical, case. In exchange for spending £6.4m of taxpayer's money, about 6,750 acres of meadow will be made less vulnerable to winter flooding. Some villages will receive improved flood protection – which could be provided independently for a few hundred thousand pounds – and motorists on some roads will be spared some winter inconvenience. At least one of the roads is likely to be bypassed in any case.

Lord Beaumont will try to persuade their lordships that behind the sturdy-looking rationale which the Severn Trent Water Authority has put up are gaping holes and shocking inadequacies.

The authority has based its case on a cost-benefit analysis technique of exactly the kind designed by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. It was conceived in the wake of the 1978 Amberley Wild-birds inquiry in which conservationists successfully demolished a ministry and water authority case for further ruining one of the most beautiful river valleys in Britain, near Arundel.

Lord Beaumont would argue that there are three important defects in the scheme. Milk production is expected to rise a little. Beef and lamb production will fall somewhat. Oil seed rape production will rise tenfold, to 335 tonnes. The production of wheat will increase more than threefold to 5,340 tonnes, much of it on land never before ploughed. Overall, according to Dr John Bowers, a Leeds University

economist and an expert in cost benefit assessment, the scheme represents an opportunity for farmers to switch from a heavily subsidized form of production to an even more heavily subsidized form of production.

Britain cannot find a use for much of the milk and wheat it now produces – it usually goes into storage, eventually to be sold cheaply abroad. But, under the common agricultural policy of the EEC, which guarantees to buy any amount that the farmer produces at a fixed high price, there is every incentive to promote production.

Lord Beaumont would argue that there are three important defects in the case which the Ministry of Agriculture asks to be made before it subsidizes a river or drainage scheme (usually to about 35 per cent with the rest coming from ratepayers).

The whole of the (private) benefit to the farmer is counted as a (public) benefit from the scheme: no account is taken of the 40 or 50 per

cent of the "profit" which the public pays in support prices and subsidy.

● The "discount rate" is set at 5 per cent: it should be at least 7 and probably 10 per cent if it is to provide anything like a decent assessment of profitability.

● No account is taken of the wastefulness of producing commodities for which there is no demand.

The issue has arisen so publicly because a private Bill was required for any action affecting the river. It is preserving ancient navigation rights that has made the scheme so expensive and brought it under parliamentary scrutiny. Because the Nature Conservancy Council and the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds were given conservation concessions in some places, and because they knew that the immediate work to the river bank would be done sensitively, they allowed the Bill to go forward unopposed.

It fell to the Council for the Protection of Rural England to stress the landscape loss. And tomorrow it will fall to the Lords. They have a rare opportunity to instruct a committee to scrutinize at least some of the figures: the secretive water authorities work on as they use public money to promote private benefit.

Richard North

Geoffrey Smith

Why June looks the best bet

One of the principal arguments used against a June election is that it would not be fitting for Mrs Thatcher as the Prime Minister of Britain to simply no longer believe what their own publicity machine was saying. In Lebanon, Israeli officers are generally honest about these things, admitting that last year's casualties were far higher than claimed, that the Israeli army was responsible for sending the Phalange into the camps.

Back

in the early 1970s the same

thing happened in Northern Ireland: British officers simply no longer believed what their own publicity machine was saying. In Lebanon, Israeli officers are generally honest about these things, admitting that last year's casualties were far higher than claimed, that the Israeli army was responsible for sending the Phalange into the camps.

Israel's stated military aims in Lebanon have also grown confused. When her army invaded last June, it was allegedly sent into battle to ensure the security of Galilee and push the Palestinian guerrillas 25 miles to the north. But when the Israelis reached Beirut, the emphasis changed: now they were going to free Lebanon from "terrorism" and hand back Lebanon's sovereignty to a legally elected president. But after Bashir Gemayel's assassination and the horror of the massacres the policy shifted again.

There

were gun battles between

Maronite Phalangists and Druze in the Israeli-occupied Chouf mountains – with guns supplied by the Israelis – but Israeli spokesmen then virtually washed their hands of the affair. The Israelis tried to arrange ceasefires, but, they said, the Maronite-Druze fighting involved old prejudices and had been going on for more than a century. The Lebanese, particularly the Druze, could not accept this. Was not antisemitism also an ancient prejudice? Why could Israel not take the same view here?

In

the Bekaa, the Israelis are now

facing a long war of attrition with the Syrians. In the south of Lebanon, Colonel Haim of Israel army intelligence – together with an Israeli officer who uses the name Abu Nooh, have now persuaded several village leaders to pay taxes for militias loyal to Israel. The Israeli army has started calling these militias by the anodyne title of the Territorial Brigade: their artificially created village committees have been graced with the democratic name of the United South Assembly.

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P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

FILLING THE SCHOOL VOID

When, according to legend, Churchill offered R. A. Butler the Board of Education in 1941, the old warrior was taken aback by his relish. "Typical of you, Rab," Churchill said. "I only offered it as an insult." That remark reflects an enduring disposition on the part of some Conservatives: from ignorance or disdain stems a cavalier attitude towards state schooling which diminishes the chance in life of the bulk of their fellow citizens. There is another tradition within the party. It is the legacy of the three Bs: Balfour, Butler and Boyle. The first B, allied with a cosying official, Sir Robert Morant, founded a national system of public education. The second produced the grand scheme of the 1944 Education Act. Boyle tried to marry the Conservatives' concern with academic standards with the spirit of an age demanding wider opportunities. There is a tradition of publicly-provided schools intended not to upset the social structure but to set a ladder before ability.

Forty years after Butler's statute is a good time to ask which tradition prevails inside Mrs Margaret Thatcher's party. The drafts of election manifestos are being sketched; and Mr David Hancock, Mrs Thatcher's personal choice for Permanent Secretary at the Department of Education and Science, is completing his preparatory reading. But on policy towards the state's schools there is a void. The tribal cry of "standards" and an ill-thought out scheme for vouchers (however well intentioned its authors' efforts to mobilize parents in the cause of superior schooling) will not substitute for the fear of public administration and quality control necessary to produce a system of schools worthy of a nation fighting industrial decline.

Yet despite the huge national investment, consumer dissatisfaction is rife. The discontent comes from middle-class parents whose children are contemporary victims of social engineering in the cause of "equality". In

THE PRICE OF SELF-DECEPTION

It is no good the Arab world in general, and the Palestinian community in particular, sitting back and blaming President Reagan for a situation in which extremist Palestinians murder their moderate compatriots for being prepared to talk to Israelis. The fact that the PLO has been able to prevent King Husain taking part in the follow up to the Reagan plan may be mostly attributable to a lack of confidence among Arabs that the United States can deliver Israel to a successful negotiation. However, it is sad that the Arabs, and particularly the Palestinians, seem to have become so seduced by the idea that their predicament is all the fault of the United States that they unfailingly exonerate themselves from blame for a situation which can only deteriorate while they indulge either in fratricidal behaviour or chronic indecision.

One of the main reasons for this indecision, of course, is that those branches of the PLO which exist in exile have more temptation to remain after the dispersal from Beirut — to remain as privileged exiles, disposing of vast sums of Saudi-inspired patronage, than to get down to the serious business of negotiating a more modest style of life on the West Bank or in the Gaza Strip. West Bank opinion happens to be divided between those

AN ARBITRARY WAY WITH GRANTS

Citizens advice bureaux sprang into being immediately on the outbreak of war in September 1939. They were the product of voluntary planning under the aegis of the National Council for Social Service. They worked closely with government departments and local authorities, which came to rely on them as an important channel of communication with members of the public. They were soon in receipt of grants from public funds in recognition of their value.

The organization was started to help less competent citizens thread their way through the regulations, restrictions and obligations of the bureaucratic society necessarily introduced by total war. After 37 years of peace the bureaucratic tide has not receded, nor civic competence become general, so far as to remove the need for the service. There is a strong demand for what the bureaux provide, as places of explanation, dispensaries of general advice or advice of first instance, as referral agencies — especially, though by no means only, where immigrants are concentrated. By filtering problems and resolving some before they become magnified, the advice bureaux relieve very many worries and

retrospect; how astounding is the venom with which intellectually sophisticated Labour leaders in the 1960s set out to dismantle Butler's scheme. In her memoir Mrs Susan Crosland recalls her husband coming home to vow the destruction of every grammar school in the country: what list of all the ills confronting Britain in 1965 could possibly have included the grammar schools?

That atavistic attitude towards achievement still permeates the educational pile bequeathed by Mr Crosland. Working-class parents rail against the schools, too, for in the recession they put an enormous premium on formal skills and paper qualifications rejected by some teachers as "divisive". Much anger is directed at a middle-class group, the National Union of Teachers, for its flabby jargon. To some lower income families it seems as if middle-class teachers and education bureaucrats have decided the working class shall not have education.

The last thing parents, teachers and above all children need is another period of structural realignment and disturbance according to some central formula. This is willy-nilly the time of change as school populations fall. Even those local authorities most hamstrung by their teacher syndicalists are forced to close schools and redeploy staff. It is a time for modest prescription from the government. Money matters: well-built and properly equipped schools are valuable. But more important is the quality of the teacher. A gifted teacher — gifted in a sense wider than the possession of reasonable academic qualification — can work minor miracles with a big class crammed into a Nissen hut with a blackboard and chalk.

Building on Sir Keith Joseph's recent white paper on teacher education, a reform plan would stiffen the rules on the passage of probationer teachers into the profession. Beyond that teachers' progression up their salary scales would be much more tightly bound than at present to their

It is Mr Begin's intention to create such a web of settlements that the kind of autonomy which he is committed to discuss in the next phase of the Camp David process would already be too modest an aim to cause him any demographic, political or military anxieties, while the West Bank remained under Israeli control. His ambitions would certainly not have been dented by the behaviour of Jordan and the Palestinians since the announcement of the Reagan plan. On the contrary, the Arab indecision can only have helped Mr Begin. So can the Sartawi murder, since it shows that the Palestinian movement seems only able to resolve internal disagreements with "murder", as is also the case in Lebanon. In the circumstances, who can be entirely surprised at the policy of fortification in Lebanon which is being pursued by the Israelis, as described by our Middle East correspondent? It is symbolic of the Palestinian exile's unwillingness to accept this hard reality on the ground that Mr Arafat, when confronted with the murder of his colleague by fellow Palestinians, was immediately inspired to blame the Israelis. He was speaking, of course, to a Yemeni audience. He deceived them, as he has for years, deceived himself.

Ulster Protestants, then as now, had not the slightest intention of subjecting themselves to a "Popish" Parliament in Dublin. They wanted them, as they want now, to effectively uphold "scriptural Christianity" in Ireland as far as that was possible. They fiercely opposed the Whig Government of the day, as they opposed the Liberal Government in 1912, as they opposed the Government in 1974.

When it comes to a challenge to their basic beliefs and aspirations no British government has any control over them. Nor does any civilized government nowadays wish to challenge them on such points.

The way forward in Ireland can only be through mutual tolerance and understanding. So, for a beginning, Catholic nationalists must jettison entirely their propaganda version of Irish history, cease to blame everything on England and the supporters of the English, accept responsibility for the consequences of mistakes, use no stronger word, made by their side in the past, cease to regard themselves as the only aggrieved party, try to recognize the values which the Ulster Protestants defend so staunchly.

If they recognize their own sins and excesses then, perhaps, the Ulster Protestants might be induced to recognize theirs. Then, and only then, will there be any realistic prospect of a united Ireland.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,
DESMOND KEENAN,
(An Ulster Catholic),
129 Bluebird Walk,
Chalkhill Road,
Wembley Park,
Middlesex.
March 30.

That there are instances to give rise to such criticism is quite likely. That they are widespread or systematic would surprise those who have watched or have dealings with the citizens advice bureaux. To use these complaints as a basis from which to threaten financial sanctions, before the complaints have been squarely put to the organization itself and without their having been examined impartially in relation to the work of the organization as a whole, is an arbitrary exercise of power. It is all the more objectionable in dealing with an organization that has a long record of proven usefulness to millions of anxious people.

For several years this college has

included such projects in the last years of the degree course. Recently, together with the Royal College of Art, we ran a postgraduate course for industrial engineering design. It is too soon to pronounce it a success, but suffice it to say that both staff and students have learned from it, that some excellent projects have emerged and the first graduates have acquired an ability that is seen by British industry to be valuable.

To my knowledge, other colleges in the UK have similar courses.

The advantage of projects which require students to design, make and test some real thing is that they can see how to use their analytical skills, bring them together with other concepts such as costs, the market requirements, production methods and aesthetics and ergonomics.

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Design education

From Professor A. Kenneway

Sir, Technical education has traditionally concerned itself with analytical studies in science and applied mechanics both at school and at university. The process has allowed those schoolchildren who take easily to abstraction to graduate. Few will argue that this process alone turns out real engineers, architects or designers.

The advantage of projects which

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Inequality over war graves

From A. W. G. Wakefield

Sir, It is with mixed feelings that I read and hear of the visit of relatives to the war graves in the Falklands.

Two years ago my wife and I visited the grave of my brother at Kanchanaburi, in Thailand. He died on the Burma Railway in 1943.

This year we managed to reach the War Graves Cemetery at Thanbyuzayat in Burma, where my wife's twin brother lies buried. He also died on the railway in 1943.

We have waited 40 years to do this and no doubt there are many who would dearly like to visit loved ones who lie in far-off places, but find the cost prohibitive.

I wrote to the Ministry of Defence, suggesting that help towards costs might be given, but the reply was that no funds exist for this purpose.

Hence my mixed feelings on the Falklands visit and on the publicity which kept two sets of case records, one lot in which the doctors could write freely, and the other lot for the scrutiny of the innumerable organizations which had access to them.

Incidentally I would advise against visiting Thanbyuzayat until a proposed hotel is built in Moulmein in two or three years' time.

Yours faithfully,
A. W. G. WAKEFIELD,
48 Holden Way,
Upminster,
Essex.

April 7.

From Mrs C. Kirk

Sir, I am very glad Falklands widows are enabled to visit their war graves. But what about surviving widows of the Second World War, and even the First? We were never offered any such facility, nor handouts from any fund such as the South Atlantic.

Many of us have never been able to afford to visit our husbands' graves. Though apparently much increased, the actual purchasing power of our pensions remains much as it minimally was in 1944.

Can you persuade the powers that be that we, too, should have the chance of such a visit made for us?

Yours faithfully,

RICHARD FOX,

Consultant Psychiatrist,
Brighton Health Authority.

The Lady Chichester Hospital,

Aldington House,

New Church Road,

Hove,
Sussex.

April 7.

Irish compromise

From Dr Desmond Keenan

Sir, It has been asserted (letter, March 30) that the British Government once believed in a united Ireland. Surely this is going beyond the evidence. Asquith or Lloyd George may have expressed general pious hopes with regard to Ireland's future prosperity. This does not mean that they believed it would come about, or come from Irish unity, or that Irish unity, as opposed to Irish harmony, was desirable. Still less does it mean that they believed that any action of his Majesty's Government would bring unity about.

This year marks the one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the first attempt by the southern nationalists Catholics to persuade the northern Protestants to join a separate Parliament in Dublin. On January 18, 1833, a meeting was held in the Royal Hotel, College Green, Dublin. The Protestant leaders simply ignored the meeting.

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March 30.

Right wing analogies

From Professor Paul Wilkinson

Sir, Dr Roger Scruton ("Benn, really just another Benito", April 5) sadly adds nothing but further abuse and confusion to the recent debate in your columns on the meaning of the term "fascism". Of course it was ridiculous of Mr Benn and Mr Healey to label Mrs Thatcher as a "fascist": every informed political

of Victoria's political philosophy of liberal individualism is light years away from the totalitarian concept of the fascist state. But it is equally silly to pretend that the term can be properly applied to the ideas of Mr Benn, an egalitarian socialist deeply attached to the principles of parliamentary democracy.

As your previous correspondents have pointed out, cheap personal attacks of this kind simply trivialise fascism and show a total insensitivity to the sufferings of those who experienced the terror and brutality of real fascist movements and regimes at first hand. It is sad to reflect that Dr Scruton has been a teacher of philosophy: one would hope that a person with his gifts would have shown a greater respect for clarity and honesty in the use of language.

Dr Scruton's central thesis that

fascism is a relatively harmless form of authoritarianism which has "very little in common" with Hitler will not bear close examination. Dr Scruton writes as if the Rome-Berlin Axis and the Second World War had never happened.

Does he not realize that in the 1930s Mussolini enacted Hitler's race laws in Italy and that by the 1940s his regime was a mere satellite of Nazi Germany? Is he unaware that fascism was in any case a Europe-wide movement and that in one occupied country after another fascist movements enthusiastically collaborated with the Nazi conquerors in their policies of genocide, massacre and terror?

Would he be surprised to learn that in a study of present-day fascist movements in over 20 countries I found their leaders in almost every case identified Hitler's Nazi regime as the heroic zenith of fascism which they years to restore?

Had Dr Scruton been in possession of the basic facts about the recent history of fascism I feel sure he would not have been able to write in the way he did.

Yours sincerely,

PAUL WILKINSON,

University of Aberdeen,

Department of Politics,

Edward Wright Building,

Old Aberdeen.

April 6.

Keeping arms balance

From Mr Brian Crozier

Sir, In their letter (April 5) Professor Michael Penzt and his friends display a breathtaking conceit. They ask us to believe that the scientific expertise at their disposal outweighs that available to the President of the United States. The proposition that non-nuclear "super-weapons" to destroy missiles in space can be built has been around for some time and has been studied in Washington as a practical possibility for the past two years.

The Soviets, on their side, have certainly been studying the military uses of space lasers since long before the Reagan Administration took over. They may not have paid equal attention to General Daniel Graham's "High Frontier" proposal for

space platforms with heat-seeking (but non-nuclear) rockets to destroy enemy missiles on their downward path.

It is astonishing to find "Scientists against Nuclear Arms" so critical of purely defensive and non-nuclear devices of the kind alluded to by President Reagan. Far from being "politically destabilising in the extreme" and "a menace to our security", these ideas could well in time make nuclear weapons obsolete. By the same token, of course, they would make unilateralists irrelevant.

Yours very truly,

BRIAN CROZIER,

Kuln House,

Dollis Avenue,

Finchley, N3.

April 6.

otherwise be considered failures because they cannot grasp abstraction at the time to do well at "O" and "A" levels.

By concentrating on science in schools to the exclusion of technology we deny many children the opportunity to become craftsmen, technicians and engineers. If only because graduates need good assistants, let alone the waste of human talent, we cannot afford to neglect the opportunity to develop more of our school leavers.

To my knowledge, other colleges in the UK have similar courses.

Yours faithfully,

A. KENNEWAY,

Imperial College of Science and Technology,

Department of Mechanical Engineering,

Exhibition Road, SW7.

April 2.

Design education

THE ARTS

Television
Power in
the pit

Vietnam (Channel 4) last night examined the Roots of War, and, in a country which has suffered one thousand years of internecine and international conflict, as well as successive waves of Chinese, French, Japanese, British and American troops, there would seem to be little else to examine. Saigon, in the Thirties, looked like Paris. The French drove around in open landaus and sent home postcards showing the severed heads of captured rebels. In the Sixties, the city resembled the outskirts of an American army camp. If we can talk about "theatres of war", then Saigon has always been a much loved stage. Or rather, a pit in which the "great powers" could combat each other; they had no need for sword, they had the Vietnamese to tread upon.

This programme (the first of 12) made it quite clear that in fact, when they were not fighting, the imperialists greatly preferred each other to the natives. After the Second World War, the British actually re-armed the Japanese, who had invaded the country, so that they could maintain "law and order". This was to ensure that the French could safely re-assume their own control. There were other ironies in this most unhappy story: it was originally the Americans who supported Ho Chi Minh and his Communist forces, and in 1945 "Uncle Ho" borrowed phrases from the American Declaration of Independence in order to write his own. Good intentions are always the first to disappear, however, and it was not long before Presidents Johnson and Nixon were asserting the more durable principles of self-interest.

This series is no doubt going to explore the Vietnamese War with the same relentless thoroughness as, for example, *The World at War* documented the battles between 1939 and 1945. But, although the advantage of television history lies in its immediacy, the danger is always one of over-simplification. Last night we saw what was essentially a schematic outline, with the colonial powers as the villains and the Vietnamese as the usurping heroes. That may well be the most plausible interpretation of the facts, but it ought to be made clear that it is only an interpretation. Nevertheless, this was an interesting beginning – and, for a programme which lambasts colonialism, there is a further irony in the fact that it is a joint English, French and American production.

Peter Ackroyd

David Bowie has recently gone East, for the first film made jointly by Britain and Japan. Peter Popham reports

Cinematic attempt
to bridge cultures

The only real opportunity afforded by history for the British and the Japanese to get to know each other was in the PoW camps of South-East Asia during the Second World War. Participants on both sides agree that it was not the best start to a relationship. Now, a motley group including David Bowie, an equally androgynous Japanese rock star, Japan's most popular stand-up comic and Tom Conti have been back to do it all over again in front of the cameras. The resulting film is the first Anglo-Japanese co-production. The men responsible are the producer Jeremy Thomas, best known for his work with Nicholas Roeg, and the leading Japanese director Nagisa Oshima. Entitled *Merry Christmas, Mr Lawrence*, it will receive its premiere at Cannes next month.

Merry Christmas is based on



Edmund Dulac,
1882-1953

Geffrey Museum

Gustave Doré,
1832-1883

Hazlitt, Gooden and Fox

settled helps a reputation in the long run.

Edmund Dulac is an interesting case in point. The exhibition marking the centenary of his birth, which began in Sheffield late last year and is now having its London airing at the Geffrey Museum (until May 29), revives a variety of memories, from the exotic gift-books he so successfully illustrated in the early years of the century up to the chichi Deco stamps he designed for the Free French territories during the Second World War, and makes a strong and fairly consistent impression. And yet it remains disturbingly difficult to label him precisely. If ever a Frenchman set out deliberately to become English, it was he. Even in his teens, we are told, he was the complete Anglophile, nicknamed "Anglais" by fellow students in Toulouse because of his devotion to dressing in the English style and his complete absorption in the work of English painters and illustrators such as Beardsley and Crane. When he came to England at the age of 22, it was for keeps.

And yet he always remained something of an exotic, as distinctively French, for all his attempts to change his spots, as any Paris Drustron or Pub. With the enormous success of his illustrations for Laurence Housman's retelling of *Stories from the Arabian Nights* in 1907 he entered decisively into the English tradition of gift-book illustration just as it was getting its second wind, with the successful

development of colour photography as a medium for the reproduction of delicate watercolour originals. Indeed, Dulac's only serious rival in the scope and variety of his work was Arthur Rackham, and though from time to time they illustrated the same kind of fairy-story Rackham stuck in general to the northern, the gothic and the cosily domestic while Dulac turned rather towards the exotic East or the Chaucerian side of the Middle Ages. Like gods of distant races, they ruled over distinct imaginative territories and acknowledged each other, when necessary, with distant amiability.

While Dulac's delicate fancy in his illustrative work is very English, the taste for elegant simplicity, the Ravelian precision with which the most seductive subjects are contained without being emasculated, and the rich, clear colours, flatly applied to make up a sumptuous mosaic surface, continue to mark him out as an exotic. If anything he became more distinctly exotic with the passage of time. His work for American illustrated magazines between the wars shows a greater and greater urge to simplification, which reaches its apogee in the beautifully uncluttered designs for the stamps and unissued coins of Edward VIII's reign. The Free French stamps are absolutely on one might call the Palais de Chaillot style, and it is difficult to guess where he might have gone, stylistically, if he had not been carried off by an over-tiring bout of flamenco dancing.

Though his career was for many years very intimately bound up with London and work for English publishers, we cannot really claim a monopoly on him: he did not visit England until he was 36, when that extraordinary business venture the Doré Gallery first opened in New Bond Street, and it did not so much create his fame as capitalize on something that was already there.

The admirable catalogue of the centenary show at Hazlitt, Gooden and Fox (until May 12) begins with the flat statement "Gustave Doré was undoubtedly the most widely known French artist in the nineteenth century", and England was only one of many countries competing for his services.

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All the same, he seems to have had a special soft spot for England. And his devotion to the illustration of English literature and English life was amply returned by the thousands who flocked to buy his illustrated editions of Tennyson's *Idylls*, *The King of the Ancient Mariner*, Jerrold's scaring account of *London*, low as well as high, and many texts of more universal interest, from Dante to Rabelais and Cervantes to the Bible, not to mention paying their shilling to see his original paintings. This was all rather irritating to superior people: Doré's having made his career virtually without teaching from anyone else, and certainly far away from the regular academic ways of ascent, did not please the French critics, and Ruskin was shocked by his lack of an

idealizing tendency: he felt that Doré was coarse and crude and brutal, and that the crowds at the Doré Gallery might as well pay to meet the Devil.

Despite these doubts in high places, Doré did most of what he did remarkably well. He never quite attained total mastery of oil painting: Edmond About remarked of his *Beauville d'Inkerman* in the 1857 Salon: "His painting is a masterpiece. It only needs to be painted." But everywhere else, in his drawings, his watercolours (which he first took up in Scotland, under strong British influence), his illustrative work in all media and even his sculptures, there are a confidence and virtuosity which silence criticism. But even more, in even the smallest of the drawings this centenary tribute has gathered together, there is an astonishing vision of things.

Doré was one of art's great mythmakers, and if, even at their jolliest, his myths tend towards the grim and the brutal, that is entirely his prerogative. There are moments in the show of unexpected lightness and charm – the four very large watercolours of tropical birds, for instance – but finally we carry away a much more vivid impression of the suffering London poor or the diversions of the damned. For all his misleading reputation as a playboy, Doré knew at first hand the dark places of the physical world and the human heart, and in his own field he was and remains without rival.

John Russell Taylor

Galleries

How the
French
took
England
by storm
and
stealth

The elegant gallic simplicity of Dulac's *The Love of a Faerie Angel* (1929); and the dark side of Doré in a detail from his *Billinggate Market*, a preparatory drawing for *London A Pilgrimage* (1872).

In a relatively small compass – for Dulac's art was essentially miniaturist – the show plays vivid tribute to his versatility and technical mastery.

There seems to have been little of nothing he could not do with watercolour and gouache, employed in a variety of western manners or with the dazzling immediacy of a Chinese brush drawing. He was a superb draughtsman, and an extraordinarily talented industrial designer, turning out patterns for wallpaper, textiles, rugs and such with unquenchable fertility along with all the stamps and coins and playing-cards. There is even one admirable landscape in oils to show that, had he so chosen, he could have excelled there too. We tend to mistrust such facility. But though admittedly such facility, would be wanton to dismiss the pleasures it offers just because they are content to remain minor.

A couple of generations earlier, another, very different, Frenchman made an indelible mark on England and the English. Gustave Doré died just a few months after Dulac was born – in 1883, at the age of 51. He could hardly have been more different, in temperament or achievement. Doré's view of the world was one of cosmic grandeur, his ambitions were on a vast scale. He did, it is true, have a special feeling for the fairy, the ghoulish and the generally supernatural, but he was more at home with devils than with angels. The grotesque was more natural and immediate to him.

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All the same, he seems to have had a special soft spot for England. And his devotion to the illustration of English literature and English life was amply returned by the thousands who flocked to buy his illustrated editions of Tennyson's *Idylls*, *The King of the Ancient Mariner*, Jerrold's scaring account of *London*, low as well as high, and many texts of more universal interest, from Dante to Rabelais and Cervantes to the Bible, not to mention paying their shilling to see his original paintings. This was all rather irritating to superior people: Doré's having made his career virtually without teaching from anyone else, and certainly far away from the regular academic ways of ascent, did not please the French critics, and Ruskin was shocked by his lack of an

idealizing tendency: he felt that Doré was coarse and crude and brutal, and that the crowds at the Doré Gallery might as well pay to meet the Devil.

Despite these doubts in high places, Doré did most of what he did remarkably well. He never quite attained total mastery of oil painting: Edmond About remarked of his *Beauville d'Inkerman* in the 1857 Salon: "His painting is a masterpiece. It only needs to be painted." But everywhere else, in his drawings, his watercolours (which he first took up in Scotland, under strong British influence), his illustrative work in all media and even his sculptures, there are a confidence and virtuosity which silence criticism. But even more, in even the smallest of the drawings this centenary tribute has gathered together, there is an astonishing vision of things.

Doré was one of art's great mythmakers, and if, even at their jolliest, his myths tend towards the grim and the brutal, that is entirely his prerogative. There are moments in the show of unexpected lightness and charm – the four very large watercolours of tropical birds, for instance – but finally we carry away a much more vivid impression of the suffering London poor or the diversions of the damned. For all his misleading reputation as a playboy, Doré knew at first hand the dark places of the physical world and the human heart, and in his own field he was and remains without rival.

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Investment and Finance

City Editor Anthony Hilton

P.O.

THE TIMES

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STOCK EXCHANGES

FT Index 683.9 up 8.9
FT Gilt: 82.75
FT All Shares: 428.22
Bargains: 26,361

Tring Hall USM Index: 171.1 up 0.8

Tokyo Nikkei Dow Jones Average: 8,475.19 up 2.38

Hongkong Hang Seng Index: 1,041.86 up 7.59

New York Dow Jones Average (latest) 1,132.93 up 8.22

CURRENCIES

LONDON
Sterling \$1.5270 up 2.20 cents

Index 81.6 up 1.0

DM 3.6875 up 1.0405

Yen 363.00 up 1.04186

Dollar Index 122.2 down 0.4

DM 2.4195 up 0.4300

Gold \$426.75 up 8.50

Sterling \$1.5275

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates: Base rates 10%

3 month interbank 10 1/4-10 1/2%

Euro-currency rates: 3 month dollar 9 1/2-9 3/4%

3 month DM 5 1/2-5 3/4%

3 month Frf 13 1/4-13 1/2%

ECGD Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance Scheme Average reference rate for interest period March 2 to April 5, 1983 inclusive: 10.974 per cent.

PRICE CHANGES

Beeston Clark 236p up 28p

Davy Corp. 72p up 5p

Fisons 603p up 20p

Sotheby P. E. 530p up 40p

Riley Leisure 177p up 15p

Triplex 27p up 5p

BTR 414 down 8p

Burman OH 157p down 10p

LWT 152p down 5p

Milford Docks 55p down 5p

Molins 149p down 6p

TODAY

Interims: Ernest Lighting, Scottish Cities Inv. TST, Smiths Inds.

Finals: Aircall, Bowthorpe Hldgs, Brook Street Bureau, Expatnet Intl, Johnston Grp, Lamont Hldgs, Northern Engineering Inds, H and J Quick Grp.

Economic statistics: Building societies' monthly figures (March); provisional figures of vehicle production (March)

Bid talk lifts Rank shares

Speculation that several leading companies may soon be the targets of bids continued to circulate in the stock market yesterday.

Shares of Rank Organisation jumped 8p to 154p amid growing talk that Grand Metropolitan may be casting an appreciative eye over parts of Rank, including holiday and bingo interests. Rank's leisure interests could be worth about £100m. Grand Met has ruled out a full bid.

Meanwhile, Dunlop, the troubled tyre group, added 5p to 55p after the Malaysian group Pegi-Multi Purpose bought 6.5 million shares, taking its stake to 26.1 per cent.

HOWDEN RESIGNATION: Mr M. J. A. Howden, vice-chairman and chief operating officer, has requested early retirement from Alexander Howden Group from July 1. He will act as a consultant to Alexander and Alexander for the next two years.

EEC COMPLAINT: The European Community has asked GATT to create a working party to examine the community's complaint that Japan's trade policies are too restrictive.

JAPAN BOOSTED: Japan's trade surplus widened to \$2,040m (£1,355m) last March from \$1,040m in February.

SALES FALL: West German wholesale sales declined 4 per cent to DM57,000 in February from the same month last year according to the Federal Statistics Office. The agency said the decline measured 3 per cent when adjusted for inflation.

INVESTMENT FALL: Planned investment in Australian mining and manufacturing projects is put at \$25,980m by a survey completed in December by the Department of Industry and Commerce. This compares with an estimate of \$31,990m six months earlier, and \$32,800m a year ago.

Wall St gains in heavy trading

New York (AP-Dow Jones) - Stocks were gaining in heavy trading.

The Dow Jones industrial average was up more than 10 points early in the morning. The transportation average, however, was fractionally lower on easing prices for the airlines.

Advances were more than 2-to-1 ahead of the decline.

Mr Sidney B. Lurie, executive vice-president at Josephthal & Co, said the market's rise was being helped by the oils "which have been oversold and now are underpriced and by the enormous flows of money coming into the market from the individual retirement accounts and from the institutions including the pension funds."

International Business Machines was at 105 up 1 1/2; General Electric 106 1/2 up 3 1/2; Motorola 103 1/2 up 1 1/2; Teletronics 145 1/2 up 1 1/2; Data General off 1/2 at 58 1/2; Sundstrand off 1/2 at 49 1/2; and Grauman's 53 1/2.

The huge underwriting operation used to underpin the whole deal is even more significant than the record size of the bid. The first £376.8m of the cash alternative will be provided by Morgan Grenfell, which has found buyers for all the shares to which Tilling's shareholders would become entitled under the share offer.

The bid, in the form of a share swap values Tilling at about £573m, equivalent to 197p a share. There is a cash alternative of 185p (compared with last week's raid price of 175p) which values Tilling at £538m.

Tilling's businesses include Pretty Polly tights, Heinemann, the publishers, and Cornhill Insurance.

The bid was vigorously rejected by Tilling, which is

promising that its poor 1982 performance will be forthcoming.

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Torin Douglas on the people whose 'ovenability' boosted profits and won awards doing so

Taking a bird's eye view of marketing success with frozen foods

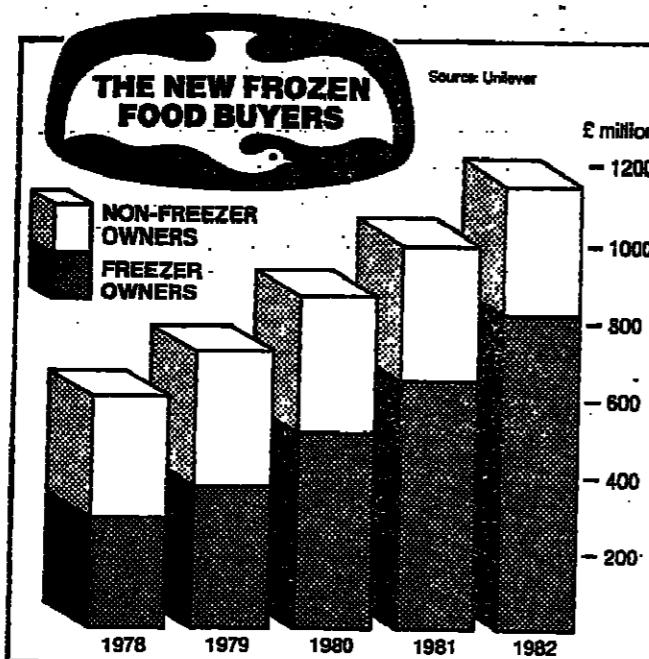
There is a love-hate relationship between the big grocery manufacturers and the supermarket chains, not least because 'supermarkets' own-label products now account for 25 per cent of grocery sales. Yet supermarket buyers are now crying out more than ever for successful new branded products from the manufacturers - even if, as cynics sometimes suggest, it is only so that they can pinch the concept and produce it more cheaply under their own name.

For this reason, the buyers' own estimates of the most successful product launches are eagerly scanned by retailers and manufacturers alike. Each year, the trade paper *SuperMarketing* polls buyers through the Martin-Hamilton research firm and asks them to rate on a scale of one to five the success of every new product. It then compiles a list of the 'Top 20'.

The 1982 chart, just out, shows that four of the top 12 products were launched by the food firm Birds Eye Wall's, including both the overall winner - Birds Eye Oven Crispy Cod Steaks - and the runner-up, Birds Eye Steakhouse Grills. Wall's Viennetta took fifth place and Birds Eye Best of British Chicken Supreme was 12th.

Birds Eye Wall's - the two Unilever frozen food subsidiaries merged their operations a few years ago - is naturally cock-a-hoop about its unprecedented dominance of the proceedings, as is the advertising agency Lintas - formerly a Lintas subsidiary, now part of the American Interpublic group - which handles three of the top 20, including Oven Crispy Cod Steaks and Viennetta. Lintas was commended in the latest industry Advertising Effectiveness Awards for its campaign for Oven Crispy cod, which features Gemma Craven singing an adapted version of *'Thoroughly Modern Millie'*.

Awards are one thing, of course, but real success is measured in terms of sales and profit and here it is clear that the three main new brands are doing well.



On current sales trends, the 1983 turnover figures for consumer prices will be £12.5m for Oven Crispy Cod, £12m for Steakhouse Grills and £5m for Viennetta', according to Mr Keith Jacobs, Birds Eye Wall's marketing director. "This underlines the fact that the buyers' votes reflect real marketplace success."

All the brands are making a healthy contribution to the company's profit, though Birds Eye, like other branded goods firms, makes no secret of the fact that competition among retailers and manufacturers has put pressure on margins, Mr Philip Bushill-Matthews, the sales director points out in the company's annual review of the frozen food market, that though the market grew last year by 15 per cent to £1,152m - outstripping the rest of the food market considerably - profits had not

"While the figures for volume and value growth are totally satisfactory, the same cannot be said of the profitability for manufacturers and, perhaps, for retailers.

The very growth of the market has produced pressure on margins. In a depressed economy, a growing market (and there are few of them) provides an opportunity for increased sales and profits, but there are many suppliers in the frozen food industry with excess capacity, leading to increased competition.

This competition in the frozen food market makes product innovation vital. Birds Eye, which has dominated the market for more than 35 years, is under pressure both from rival manufacturers such as Findus and the Imperial subsidiary, Ross Foods, and also from own label products.

One example of a fast-growing sector in which Birds Eye appears to have missed out is frozen oven chips, where McCain's is now the clear leader. Yet the company quickly learned from the success of the oven chip market - where it turned out that 60 per cent of purchasers either did not buy ordinary frozen chips at all or infrequently. It decided there was a market for a fish product that could be used in the same way.

"Ovenability" is the marketing jargon for the capacity to produce foods that taste fried simply by popping them in the oven. Birds Eye decided that an "ovenable" fish in batter, which

Mr Jacobs does not accept these figures because he says it depends what you include in your definition of frozen foods.

In addition, he says, Birds Eye looks at things from a value point of view, rather than volume, because it works at the added value, premium price end of the business. Last year,

did away with "the fuss, bother and unpalatability of deep-frying", had a big future. After 18 months development, mainly on the formula for the batter, which remains a closely-guarded secret, Birds Eye Oven Crispy Cod Steaks were launched in the Midlands in October 1981.

In addition to monitoring the sales of the new product, Birds Eye was anxious to see what effect it would have on sales of its existing cod steaks in batter, called simply Crispy Cod Steaks, which had to be fried in the normal way. If the new product were simply to divert sales from the old one, it would not be doing what Birds Eye intended, which was to expand the market by attracting people who could not be bothered with frying.

As it turned out, things went in our favour and Birds Eye increased its share of the fish in the batter market by nine points to 65 per cent and expanded the market by 30 per cent. As a result of this success, the product was launched nationally a year ago and since then sales have been exceeding the targets. The total market for fish in batter increased last year to £38m, of which Oven Crispy Cod accounted for £8m.

Oven Crispy Cod was one of 12 products launched by Birds Eye last year, in addition to which two product ranges were relaunched with quality improvements. Within the next few months, the company will be launching ten more products, either nationally or regionally. Not all may succeed, of course, but Birds Eye maintains its record is better than most.

"I really would claim that the proportions of Birds Eye products that come out of test market into national distribution is considerably higher than the average grocery figures so often bandied about", Mr Jacobs says. "Throughout all our years in the frozen food market, we believe we have always managed to get very close to the changing needs of

the consumer and to meet those needs by a dedicated insistence on three important ingredients - better-than-average quality, added value in product presentation, and new ideas."

Market research plays a key role, Mr Jacobs again: "It provides us not only with a continuous monitor of the many segments of the market but a picture of how consumer tastes and requirements are moving. The needs of today's working women, the fragmentation of family eating, the developing trends of freezer ownership and freezer size are just some of the pointers which market research provides for successful product development."

At the same time as launching products, Birds Eye is constantly revamping existing ones. "Our market strategy calls for a very precise balance between old, proven developments and innovation, in each of our market groups - fish, meat, vegetables, cakes and desserts. Alongside smaller, sweeter Birds Eyes Peas, came Stir Fry Vegetables. Alongside improved Fish Fingers and Beeburgers we introduced Oven Crispy Cod and Steakhouse Grills."

Whether this constant process of improvements and innovations is sufficient to keep

12 products launched last year with 10 on the way

the own-label products and smaller brands at bay is something only time will tell, though with the market growing at its current pace and with price still a key factor the chances are that in volume terms the Birds Eye share will continue to fall. In value terms, however, the brand leader seems likely to have things more its own way.

Scoring own goals

Alfred Herbert is dead. Long live Alfred Herbert. That was the message last week as the remains of what was once Britain's machine tool giant went into receivership, taking with it the saviour, Tooling Investments with it. The receiver is confident that someone else will buy Herbert as is going concern, just as Tooling bought it from another receiver after the National Enterprise Board got tired of £57m losses between 1976 and 1980.

But it is not just a swap of ownership. Two other machine-tool groups have gone bust this year and Herbert will shrink, yet again, three more offices in the industry's death by a thousand cuts.

Does it matter? Certainly. Whitehall cares far more about this traditionally strategic industry, sometimes called "the key to productivity", than do many big individuals, who see it as a tinpot trade best left to small firms. The machine tool industry is not quite a microcosm of our troubles, but its decline is instructive as well as damaging. We have many industrial lessons still to learn.

It is fashionable to suppose that machine-tool manufacturers are being killed off by foreign competition. Korea and Taiwan make the cheap basic tools at one end. Japan is mounting a determined onslaught at the other, to corner the market for high-value computer-controlled tools and machining centres that now account for more than a third of the British market, by value, though fewer than one in 15 machines sold. Well, imports may give the *coups de grace*, but they are not to blame.

Machine tools were traditionally specialized and widely traded internationally. Although Britain, perhaps inevitably, lost its dominating postwar position, we have almost always maintained a trade surplus, with the notable exception of 1979. On the latest full figures, for 1981, Britain managed 4.7 per cent of world exports from 3.5 per cent of world output. Until the high pound phenomenon, British exports held up pretty well. But West Germany did much better, notching almost a

quarter of world exports from 15 per cent of production. Menashi, Japan's share of world exports, was two points lower than its share of production, though that was an enormous 18 per cent.

As with most cycles, it was the decline of our industry that led to imports, rather than the imports killing it. The troubles were at home. It was, to say the least, unfortunate that much of the heart of Britain's machine-tool trade was in the hands of two terminally complacent companies. Such dinosaurs might not last so long today.

The main, long-running crisis was that British industry simply failed to invest in new machines. Manufacturers failed to create demand with new products. Engineering firms were not interested in the minutiae of productivity and cost-cutting. But mainly, British industry just has not grown fast enough to need the investment goods. Home orders fell over a generation.

Japan has built exports on a huge, growing and relatively stable home market. Britain has had to lean ever more on difficult foreign markets because it could not rely on the wild swings and general decline of its own.

One lesson is that British firms cannot simply hope that home demand will turn up, as so many machine tool makers did. Another is that those disdainful big firms were short-sighted. Technology is transforming machine tools into a big company industry, making high value, non-specialised tools that need plenty of finance and volume. Our firms are getting smaller.

Japan's Okuma makes as many computer-controlled machines in a month as Herbert does in a year.

We have reacted with typical lassitude, sparingly a European deal to force Japan to limit its firms' exports of high value machines and to raise their prices, a wonderful formula to make our engineering industry less competitive in future. That policy can make any sense only if we can persuade a large Japanese company to take over the remains of Alfred Herbert.

Graham Searjeant



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Face to face
with Altergo

Computers in Congress

Scorpio stalks Capitol Hill

P.O. During the Carter administration, "the White House became an unprincipled information thief". Such a remark may seem out of character in the serious world of government but it was made by a senior congressional staff member when it was found that Vice President Mondale, through his dual appointment as president of the United States Senate, had allowed White House staff free access to the congressional computers.

At the time, the White House was concluding tough negotiations with Congress on several proposals for legislation. By tapping the computers, Carter's men were able to gain a strategic advantage; they were able to find out what decisions were about to be made in the House of Representatives and the Senate and could also obtain voting records of individual Congressmen which could help in the President's lobbying.

The 425 members of the House of Representatives, and the 100 senators have three computer systems available to them. Each chamber has its own, and the third is in the Library of Congress. All three were developed separately, and while their growth reflected different needs, priorities and funding arrangements, there are considerable areas of overlap.

Such duplication can be an advantage since when one system is not functioning, which happens quite often, access can be made to one of the others.

Last summer I spent five weeks as a visiting scholar in Washington studying the Scorpio system in the library. Scorpio (Subject/Content Oriented Retrieval Program for Information On-line) has much in common with Polis operated by the House of Commons Library at Westminster, although it has been established for longer.

By 1970 the Library of Congress was already using automatic data processing, but Scorpio was set up in 1973 and, of the three computer systems on Capitol Hill, it is the most comprehensive.

There are more than 4,000 terminals on the Hill - in sharp contrast to the present 17 at the Palace of Westminster. The majority of these are in offices of the House of Representatives and are of the "teleprinter 'phone-link type", which means they are connected to the telephone system by means of an acoustic coupler or electronically wired through a modem.

Terminals in Senate offices are all visual display units. Members of the public may use one of Scorpio's 30 VDUs and thermal printers in the reading room of the library.

Once a user has connected up with the Scorpio data base he can plug into a choice of six main files:

• Legislative information - everything you might wish to know about all public bills introduced during a particular session.

• The congressional record - a close equivalent to *House*.



● Major issues - objective run-downs of key policy issues.

● Citations/bibliographies - references to articles in current periodicals, journals, etc.

● Library of Congress computerized catalog - details of all books acquired or lodged for copyright, including foreign publications, musical scores, and statistical abstracts.

● National referral center resources: descriptions of more than 15,000 information sources (organizations which are qualified and willing to respond to questions to the processes of law-making).

Unlike Members of Parliament whose access to Polis is through a staff member in the House of Commons Library, Congressmen and their assistants can call up Scorpio's files through their own terminals.

Unlike Polis, which has a growing number of "outside" subscribers, vetted by a committee of the House of Commons Library, Congress is at present hesitant to set up commercial access arrangements other than the present public use of non-sensitive files.

In addition to their own data bases, the three systems on Capitol Hill can get information from a number of other sources. These include the *New York Times* information bank, consisting of references and abstracts from more than 60 periodicals; Juris, which stores legal information data; and Medline, which provides access to abstracts compiled by the National Library of Medicine.

The histories of adoption of computer services in Congress and at the Palace of Westminster have some similarity. Both have been slow to respond to new technology and change.

In Washington, as we have seen, legislators have a far greater range of resources at their disposal compared with Westminster. But some critics have suggested, particularly regarding the House of Representatives system, that acquisition of information has tended towards a "garbage-can" approach.

The week/Clive Cookson

The race to sell off Altergo

The precariousness of the fragmented British software industry has been highlighted by last week's news that Altergo, one of the best known companies in the field, has gone into receivership.

Altergo was Britain's leading independent producer of software for IBM computers. The 14-year-old group employed about 300 people and had a turnover last year of £8.7m, including a lot of export work.

The receivers, London accountants Thornton Baker, are working very fast to sell off the five Altergo operating companies before their main asset - the staff - disappears.

The only one to make that interest public was Oxford-based Telecomputing, whose managing director, Bernard Pantin, said: "I think it (Altergo) will turn to dust very quickly unless something happens fast." Telecomputing, which specializes in ICL software, sees the purchase of Altergo as an attractive diversification into the larger IBM market.

Altergo's financial crisis follows the resignation of several senior managers and the return to the United States of American financiers Leonard Levy, who became managing director just three months ago.

The computer industry's (few) sentimentalists are mourning the death of one of its oldest and most respected names, Univac. This month the Sperry Corporation's Sperry Univac computer business became known simply as Sperry.

The company officially signed Univac to history with a nostalgic ceremony at the Eleutherian Mills Historical Library, a centre of American industrial archaeology in Delaware. Sperry handed over 10 tons of records, files and photographs from its own archives, documenting the birth of Univac and the computer industry in the 1940s. Univac's last great coup,

Computer Appointments appear on page 22.

People in computers/Chris Curry, Acorn Computers

Waiting for the oak tree to grow

"There was a point where we nearly didn't go into the personal computer business", admits Chris Curry, of Acorn Computers. "Our first computer, the Atom, was produced almost by a subversive cell within the company. There were no indications that people wanted this type of thing."

But since 1979, when the Atom appeared, about 33,000 have been sold. Acorn's next model was selected for the BBC computer series, and was one of the choices for the Government's Micros in Schools scheme. Sales are now approaching 100,000.

"I always felt there was a good opportunity", says Curry. "I wasn't surprised, but very pleased."

This month, Acorn is launching its low-cost home computer, the Electron, and is about to enter the United States market. The company is spending \$270,000 to show the BBC micro programmes on America's public broadcasting network, and hopes to sell 50,000 computers by the end of the year.

It's a dramatic change for Chris Curry, an electronics engineer by training. Now 37, he spent 13 years working for Clive Sinclair, Britain's pioneer of pocket calculators and home computers.

In the mid-1970s Curry was running Science of Cambridge, in which Sinclair had the majority stake, when he met Hermann Hauser, a young



Austrian who had just gained a physics PhD at Cambridge.

"Hermann was wondering whether to go home and join the family wine business, or whether to stay in England," recalls Curry. "We used to put our heads together and try to think of products, and we thought of some very odd ones."

Curry and Hauser are joint managing directors of Acorn Computers, which was formed in 1978 to market the Atom. They share a large office, and their rapport seems absolute.

Curry sees education as a market where Acorn can dominate, but his ambitions do not end there.

"We are not placing any limits on the size we can grow to," he says. "We see the Electron as a very powerful threat to the existing dominance by Sinclair and the Commodore VIC 20. We hope to get half the home computer market."

In the small business area "we want to be in there getting all the people who are buying Apple". He plans to sell to larger business users, too.

It's a long way from working on the bench with Clive Sinclair. What are his relations now with his erstwhile employer and present rival? "We quite often meet socially," Curry says. "These days we don't talk much about business."

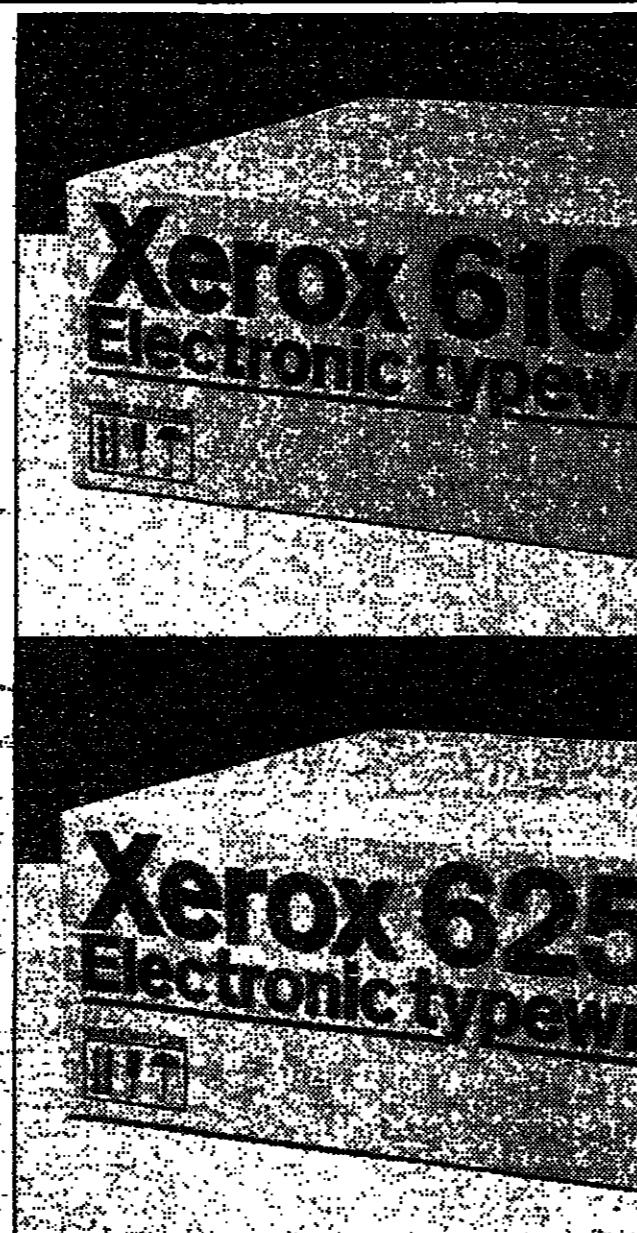
Roger Woolnough

Westminster, on the other hand, may have had an advantage of a slower process of adoption, with a close watch on budget allocations, and the opportunity to learn from the successes and mistakes of others. Indeed, some of my hosts at the Library of Congress were envious of Polis since it appeared to them unencumbered by some of the problems to which their system is prone.

Computers have clearly arrived in both the US Congress and the British Parliament; most would concede that they bring enormous benefits to the processes of law-making.

Benedict KNOX

● The author, who is aged 17, is in his final year at The City of London School.



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RACING

Harwood colt to stride along the Epsom road

By Michael Phillips, Racing Correspondent

After the excitement and the romance of Aintree on Grand National Day the spotlight switched to Newmarket where the Craven Stakes is the key race on the first day of the three-day Craven meeting.

As a classic trial it has been misleading more often than not, although it has been quite helpful in recent years. For instance three years ago it was won by Tyvynas, who was to win the Irish Derby later in the season. The following year To-Agor-Mou ran well enough in it to win the backmark that he had beforehand, to suggest that he could still win the 2,000 Guineas, which he did. Last year Silver Hawk's victory pointed to him eventually doing well in the Derby, in which he finished third.

This time interest centres around Muscatine and Tolomeo, two possible candidates for the 2,000, for which they are quoted at 25-1, and Lyphard's Special, who is due to be past that particular classic to be trained for the Derby.

With City Harwood's stable firing on all cylinders already it will be disappointing if Lyphard's Special does not make a successful start to his three-year-old career, even though the ground will be softer than last year. For his part in his two-year-old form Lyphard's Special has the measure of his four opponents this afternoon.

The one imponderable which only a race will resolve, is whether he is as good now as he was last year or whether one of his rivals has improved out of all recognition. If Lyphard's Special has not even more to offer he should certainly take care of Muscatine, who finished a length and a half behind him when they were third and fourth, respectively, to Dubnach at the William Hill Futurity at Doncaster last October.

Having seen guns of Navarone destroyed by another of Harwood's classic hopes, Sackford, at Kempton the Saturday before Easter, I am confident that Lyphard's Special should not be troubled from that quarter either, even though guns of Navarone had no part in his previous success in that horse's race.

If I was in Harwood's stable I would be more afraid of Tolomeo because this big colt, who is trained by Luca Cumani, possesses so much scope and potential that he looks sure to train on and perhaps improve out of all recognition between the ages of two and three. Last year Tolomeo struck me as precisely the sort to follow this season after he had won a maiden race at Newbury in the Autumn. Before that he had been beaten in similar races at Great Yarmouth by Polished Silver and Lord Protector, two quite highly regarded members of the Henry Cecil entourage.

Cecil himself will be fielding his



Luca Cumani, trainer of Tolomeo (3-5)

first runners of the new season this afternoon and the word from Headquarters is that Flat racing's equivalent of Michael Dickinson is expecting to collect the spoils on both occasions, even though his huge string is thought to be more backward than usual because of the recent vile weather there.

Conrad Hilton (2-2) and Secret Assignment (4-40) are the two standard-bearers in question. George Robinson, our eagle-eyed representative on Newmarket Heath, is particularly keen on Conrad Hilton, seen in public last year was at Yarmouth where he ran well enough behind Aswan and The Minister to suggest that he ought to be capable of bettering the likes of Katalyst and The Householder.

Secret Assignment, Ceci's runner in the Elveden Maiden Stakes, which is won by a decent filly more often than not, will need to be at his best to be a contender to a living symbol of English life more emotive than the legend of Robin Hood.

Of the Irishman Jack Field Moloney, who left the field behind on Easter Hero in 1929, only to be overhauled by the 100-1 outsider Gregalach, when Easter Hero twisted a shoe.

So if we are agreed that the National ought to be saved, the question remains: can it be? It is, it seems in the balance. The appeal committee has an option to purchase a Aintree from the developer, Bill Davies, for £4m, which expires on May 1.

When yesterday I discussed the situation with Lord Vestey, vice-chairman of the trust which would manage the course in future if they are able to raise the money, it appeared that something in excess of £3m is already to

hand.

In an indefinable way, the National helps to make us feel comfortable, neighbourly, optimistic, even patriotic. It is part of our collective identity, far more than the Derby, which is rated by the Independent Broadcasting Authority as a national event along with

the Grand National.

As the weather was every bit as appalling at Newmarket yesterday as it was in most other parts of the country, the race on the Rowley Mile course promises to be testing than usual there. In the circumstances, One O'clock Jump (2-35) and Groat (3-40) look the two to follow for the Ladbroke Handicap and the Swaffham Handicap, respectively.

Newmarket

Total Double: 3.05, 4.10. Trable: 2.35, 3.40, 4.0.

Draw no advantage.

[Television (TV): 2.35, 3.05 and 3.40 races]

2.00 STETCHWORTH STAKES (3-y-o maidens: £2,527; 6f) (9 runners)

101 4-0 BOLD SECRET (Stewart-Brown) G Pritchard-Gordon 8-0

102 4-0 LYNN'S LADY (Gibbons) G Harwood 8-0

103 4-0 SPANISH PLACE (St George) G Harwood 8-0

104 4-0 FITZWILLIAM (M A Bodie) G Harwood 8-0

105 4-0 KALYKOU (H A Kaga) R Flanagan 9-0

106 4-0 SINGLES (M H Higgins) H Hindey 8-0

107 4-0 HOUSE BUILDER (Bettie Bloodstock) M Jarvis 8-0

108 4-0 GENTLE RHYTHM (Spina) F Durr 8-11

109 4-0 THE HOUSE BUILDER (Bettie Bloodstock) M Jarvis 8-0

110 4-0 CONRAD HITTON (M 2) F Durr 8-11

111 4-0 5-2 FITZWILLIAM (M 2) Hobbs 8-0

112 4-0 5-2 BOLD & WOOLLY (G) Wobbs 8-0

113 4-0 5-2 SIR BUTCH (H Hardinge) J Dunlop 8-3

114 4-0 5-2 WEST WELLOM (M Pease) G Stading 8-3

115 4-0 5-2 SIR BUTCH (M Pease) G Stading 8-3

116 4-0 5-2 SIR BUTCH (M Pease) G Stading 8-3

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Dated the 5th day of April 1983.

L. T. COLLIER
Director.

CLIFFORD-TURNER

Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Dear

BBC 1

6.00 **Cerfax AM**, News headlines, weather, traffic and sport. Also available to viewers whose sets do not have the Teletext facility.

6.30 **Breakfast Time** with Frank Bough and Saffra Scott. News 21.30, 7.30, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30 with headlines on the quarter hours; regional news, traffic and weather at 8.45, 7.15, 7.45 and 8.15. Closedown at 9.15.

12.30 **News** (After Noon 12.55). Regional news (London and SE only). News headlines with subtitles preceded by financial report 1.00. **Peabody Man At One**, jazz pianist and guitarist, Doctor John, teams up with Chris Barber in a celebration marking the 25th anniversary of the Marques Club of London's 145 Heads and Tails, A Sea-Saw programme for the very young.

2.00 **Discovering English Churches**. Donald Sinden visits Cawston Church in Norfolk (T 2.30). **Cartoon**: *Fleabounds* 2.40. **Everybody's Doin' It**. Home movies of the 1920s and 30s presented by John Julius Norwich (T 7.15). **Songs of Praise** from St Helier Parish Church, Jersey (shown Sunday) 3.30. **News** headlines (not London).

3.55 **Play School**. For the under fives (shown earlier on BBC 2) 4.20. **Cartoon** *Scoby Doo, Where Are You?* 4.40. **The Record Breakers**, presented by Roy Castle and Norris McWhirter 5.05. **News** headlines. The latest news for young people is shown by Paul and McDowell 5.10. **The Song and the Story**, Isle St Clair sings The Square, a series of songs about the English countryside of the 1900s.

5.40 **News** 6.00. **South East at Six**. 6.22 **Noteworthy**. 6.45 **Triangle**. Episode three of the drama about a North Sea ferry company. Matt Taylor finds a stowaway on board the ship and, touched by the old man's story, he makes plans to help him. Starring Larry Lamb as Matt Taylor and Richard Marner as his stowaway, Stefan Krystaski.

7.10 **Cliff**. The second of four programmes tracing the career of the evergreen Cliff Richard. This evening he talks about his religion and how he reconciles it with the world of pop singing (V).

5.00 **Now Get Out of That**. Part two of the brawn and brains test between two teams. In this programme a member of both teams is captured; these are friendly guides who cannot speak; and a time-bomb is to be made as well as a code to be cracked.

8.30 **Tears Before Bedtime**. Comedy series about a married couple who have run away from home to escape their third night away, and they decide to sleep out and spend the night in an expensive hotel. Starring Francis Henshall and Geraldine McEwan.

9.00 **News**. 9.25 **Play for Today: Reluctant Chickens**, by David Gresham. A comedy about a couple who want their adult, successful, offspring to fly the nest. Starring Gwen Watford and Patrick Troughton.

10.20 **Nothing Doing**. A documentary that follows six unprepared school leavers from Bolton, a town where the number of people on the dole is just above the national average.

11.15 **News** headlines. 11.20 **Barbers Mandrell and the Mandrell Sisters**. Country music with guests.

12.00 **Weather**.

TV-2am

5.00 **Breakfast with Lucy** (Matten) 8.30. **Reluctant Chickens** (BBC 9.25pm), a story not unlike the comedy series *Tears Before Bedtime*, shown an hour earlier, inasmuch that Malcolm and Jo want to be unshackled from the encumbrances of their four adult offspring who, although successful, appear not to want to marry or leave home, whereas in the earlier comedy *Geoffrey and Anne* have abandoned the house to escape their immovable siblings. Malcolm is a general practitioner nearing retirement. He dreams of spending his leisure time campaigning for an improved Health Service while Jo would like to see the back of her children. In order to write a literary masterpiece, none of the four show any inclination to move out, each

9.30 **Sesame Street**, *Leaping*, made-in-the-USA. 10.30 **Science International**. News of the latest scientific research, narrated by Michael Bantle. 10.35 **Database**. How intelligent is a computer? Could it ever take the place of a doctor? (T 11.00) *John's Animal Opera*. Johnny Morris with the musical story, *Lolloplop the Racehorse* 11.30. **Fun Film** presented by Derek Griffiths. Cartoons featuring *Daffy Duckland*. *Porky Pig* (T).

12.00 **Cockleshell Bay**. Adventures of the Cockles twins for the very young (T 12.15) *Once Upon a Time*. Mark Synder's tale of the *Princess and the Pea* (T 12.30) *The Sullivans*.

1.00 **Play School**. For the under fives (T 12.15) *Closedown*.

5.10 **Bronze Casting**.

5.40 **The Old Grey Whistle Test**, Rock-Pop in Concert, part one: Highlights of concerts featuring Tom Petty and A Flock of Seagulls.

6.20 **The Watsons**. John Boy poses to New York to further his writing career but receives disappointing news when he arrives.

7.05 **News** summary with subtitles.

7.10 **Film: Conquest of Space** (1955) starring Walter Brooke and Eric Fleming. Another in the science fiction series, this being set in 1980 when a planned manned trip to the moon is suddenly changed to make Mars the destination. This project is put in danger by the inability of the crew. Directed by Byron Haskin.

8.30 **Tot Gear** goes to Britain's oldest permanent road race track, Donington Park, Derbyshire, this year celebrating its Golden Jubilee. Pauline Woodland experiences what sports car racing was like in the 1950s, with assistance from former racing driver John Boister, and also visits the Donington collection of single-seater racing cars.

9.00 **Discovering Birds**. Tony Soper, in the second of his series of eight films on the pleasures of bird watching examines the way birds drink and bathe and how they cope with frozen water in winter.

9.45 **Reporting London** presented by Michael Barrett.

7.20 **Film: Deliver Us From Evil** (1974) starring George Kennedy, Bradford Dillman and Jan-Michael Vincent. A number of men at a camping trip notice a parasitic land nearby. They later learn that a hijacker has escaped with a ransom of \$5 million. They decide to kidnap him, the parasitic. Directed by Boris Sagal.

8.30 **Good Night and Goodness**. A new, six-part situation comedy written by and starring Donald Churchill. He plays a successful comedy quizmaster whose butler persona is totally different to his private life.

8.40 **Galaxy: The Depths of Beauty**. Another case for the investigative pathologist.

10.30 **News**.

10.30 **Academy Awards**, from the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion, Los Angeles. The hosts for this year's presentation are Walter Matthau, Richard Pryor, Dudley Moore and Julie Christie.

11.50 **Open University: Counting Atoms**. 12.05 **Keynes and the War Economy**. Ends at 12.30.

12.15 **Closes with Brian Blessed**.

12.00 **Entertainments**. *Entertainments* news service for television journalists. *Entertainments* news for radio. *Entertainments* news for BBC 1.

12.30 **Opera & Ballet**. *Opera* 6.00. 8.00. 10.00. *Ballet* 7.30. *Opera & Ballet* 10.30. *Opera & Ballet* 12.30. *Opera & Ballet* 12.30.

11.15 **News** headlines. 11.20 **Barbers Mandrell and the Mandrell Sisters**. Country music with guests.

12.00 **Weather**.

TV LONDON

5.00 **Gwen Watford and Patrick Troughton** in David Cregan's very witty comedy *RELUCTANT CHICKENS* (BBC 9.25pm), a story not unlike the comedy series *Tears Before Bedtime*, shown an hour earlier, inasmuch that Malcolm and Jo want to be unshackled from the encumbrances of their four adult offspring who, although successful, appear not to want to marry or leave home, whereas in the earlier comedy *Geoffrey and Anne* have abandoned the house to escape their immovable siblings. Malcolm is a general practitioner nearing retirement. He dreams of spending his leisure time campaigning for an improved Health Service while Jo would like to see the back of her children. In order to write a literary masterpiece, none of the four show any inclination to move out, each

9.30 **Gwen Watford** Jo in *Reluctant Chickens* BBC 9.25pm.

CHOICE

being under the misapprehension that their parents need them, a situation that Jo, particularly, finds frustrating. She takes the bull by the horns and puts the house on the market. But how should she break the sad news to the children?

● That annual orgy of tears and humidity – the **ACADEMY AWARDS** (ITV 10.30pm) comes round again tonight for the 55th time with Britain's hopes of bringing home at least one of the coveted gold statuettes resting on Sir Richard Attenborough's Gandhi which has won nominations in a record 11 categories. Curiosity and excerpts from the winning films make this a programme not to be missed by any cinema buffs even though the results will have already been announced.

● Valerie Windsor, winner of the 1980 Pyle Award for the best original play – *Varian the Snow Queen* – has written **FIXED IMAGES** (Radio 4.30pm) starring Kate Lee and Anna Lindup, a story of two schoolfriends who meet at a party after a gap of 20 years. Rachel is now an acclaimed artist, with a self-confidence that comes with success. Helen is married with three children and the author of a detective novel that she wrote only after being goaded into it by her husband. They arrange to visit their old school, which is up for sale, and wallow in nostalgia as they look at old photographs. Memories come flooding back but they soon realize that their great friendship was not as they had remembered.

Radio 3

6.55 **Weather**. 7.00 **News**. 7.05 **Morning Concert**: Dvorak, Chopin, Stravinsky; records. 8.00 **News**. 8.05 **Morning Concert** (continued). Bach, Rodrigo, Lohr; records. 9.00 **News**. 9.05 **This Week's Composers**. The Spanish Golden Age, includes Luis Milán, Mudarra, Narváez, Juan Vázquez, Francisco Guerrero, Morales; records. 10.00 **Hungarian Orchestral Music**. Kodály, Lajtha, Bartók; records.

10.55 **Field and Clement**, Piano recital.

11.45 **Schutz Choral Music**.

12.15 **Midday Concert**: BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra. Part 1: Glazka, John McLachan.

1.00 **News**. 1.45 **Midday Concert Part 2**: Tchaikovsky.

1.45 **David Wynne** Piano Sonata No. 1.

2.00 **Semanario Musical**: Music World visits Madrid and Barcelona.

2.50 **Brahms Chamber Music**.

3.55 **Hallé** Conducts The London Philharmonic Orchestra. Mozart, Laski, Shostakovich; records.

4.45 **News**.

5.00 **Mainly For Pleasure**.

5.30 **Don Carlos**. Opera by Verdi (sung in French) direct from The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Act 1. 2. The opera was first performed by Verdi in 1865. The first performance of the British Press, 1865. The World Today, 8.30. **Financial News**, 8.45. **Look Ahead**, 8.45. **Discovery**, 10.30. Rivers of the World, 11.00. **News**, 11.30. **Evening Standard**, 11.45. **Network UK**, 8.00. **News**, 8.05. **Reflections**, 8.15. **Love and Mr Lovett**, 8.30. **Stridley**, 8.45. **Evening Standard**, 8.50. **Letter from London**, 11.25. **Scotland**, 8.30. **Evening Standard**, 11.30. **News**, 11.45. **Sports International**, 12.00. **Radio News**, 12.05. **777**, 12.10. **Midnight Close**, VHF radio 1 and 2. 5.00am with **Radio 2**, 10.00pm with **Radio 2**, 10.00pm with **Radio 2**.

Radio 2

5.00am **The Early Show**, 7.30 **Ray Moore**, 10.00 **Jimmy Young**, 11.20 **Music While You Work**, 12.30 **Gloria Hunniford**, 1.20 **Ed Stewart** (including 3.02 **Sports Desk**, 3.05 **Racing from Newmarket**, 3.15 **Football**, 3.30 **Horseracing**, 3.45 **Football**, 4.02 **4-5-30 Sports Desk**, 5.00 **John Dunn** (including 7.30 **Hubert Gregg**), 1.15 **It's a Knockout**, 2.15 **Sports Desk**, 2.30 **The Law Game**, 2.45 **Geoffrey Chevalier**, 3.00 **Midnight Close**, VHF radio 1, 1.00am **The Radio Orchestra**, 7.15 **The Big Band**, 7.30 **String**, 7.45 **Patrick Lunt** presents **You and the Night** and the **Music**.

Radio 1

6.00am **Adrian John** with **The Early Show**, 7.00 **Steve Wright**, 9.00 **Simon Bates**, 11.30 **Mike Smith**, including 11.45 **Evening Standard**, 12.00 **Evening Standard**, 12.30 **Evening Standard**, 1.00 **Peter Powell**, including 5.30 **Newsbeat**, 6.00 **Frontline**, 8.00 **Richard Skinner**, 10.00 **John Peel**, 12.00 **Midnight Close**, VHF radio 1 and 2. 5.00am with **Radio 2**, 10.00pm with **Radio 2**, 10.00pm with **Radio 2**.

WORLD SERVICE

6.00am **Newscast**, 6.30 **Jazz for the Asking**, 6.45 **World News**, 7.00 **Evening Standard**, 7.30 **Radio 1 News** and **Corporation**, 7.45 **Network UK**, 8.00 **News**, 8.05 **Reflections**, 8.15 **Love and Mr Lovett**, 8.30 **Stridley**, 8.45 **Evening Standard**, 8.50 **Look Ahead**, 8.55 **Discovery**, 9.00 **World News**, 9.15 **The World Today**, 9.30 **Midnight Close**, VHF radio 1 and 2. 5.00am with **Radio 2**, 10.00pm with **Radio 2**, 10.00pm with **Radio 2**.

WHAT THE SYMBOLS MEAN

* Stereo. ** Black and white. (x) Repeat.

CHANNEL 4

5.00 **A Full Life**. The first of six programmes in which Jill Cochran talks to people who are having a loom and interesting life. Today she meets Lord Cuttiss in the garden of his Chichester home where he reminisces with typically controversial asides, on his long career in Fleet Street.

5.30 **Countdown**. Another edition of the words and numbers game, presented by Richard Whibley, assisted by Kenneth Williams.

6.00 **A Party Satirical Broadcast**. A new series designed for the first-time voter who may be wondering whether or not the process is worthwhile. In this first programme, a member of parliament, a Conservative, a Labour MP, an unemployed woman and a young socialist discuss Democracy.

6.30 **The Dick Van Dyke Show**. Another slice of comedy from the likes of *Rowan and Martin's Laugh-In*. Starring Rob Petrie and his wife, Laura, and starring Mary Tyler Moore.

7.00 **Channel Four News**. Headlines at 7.30 followed by Arts-Focus presented by Stephen Phillips which will include a report from the Oscar awards ceremony in Los Angeles. Broadcast news at 7.45.

7.50 **Comment**. On the soap-box this evening is Colin McCabe, Professor of English at the University of Strathclyde.

8.00 **Entertainment**. Lucy Adams, *Entertainment* news service for television journalists.

8.30 **Film: The Long Summer of George Adams** (1981) starring James Garner. A made-for-television by the team that produced the *Rockford Files* movie about a railway worker in Oklahoma during the early 1950s who faces a mid-life crisis brought about by the introduction of diesel locomotives at the expense of steam about which he knows everything. Directed by Stuart Margolin.

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1

Wartime bomb defused by Army

Central London traffic was almost brought to a standstill yesterday morning by the discovery of a Second World War German bomb capable of lethal damage within a half-mile radius, John Witherow writes.

The 11lb leacy of the Blitz was dragged from the Thames river on Sunday night by a dredger working opposite the Festival Hall. The device, about 30in long and severely corroded, was moved gingerly down stream to the other side of Waterloo Bridge where it was placed on a barge to be defused.

The danger of an explosion as an army bomb disposal team drilled through the outer casing led police to cordon off an area within a half-mile between 7.30am and 11am. Office workers in buildings nearby were evacuated and others told to keep away from windows.

Police closed three bridges, three mainline stations and prevented passengers leaving certain Underground stations. Hundreds of buses were diverted and traffic jams stretched for miles either side of the river. The Automobile Association said there was worse congestion than during the rail strike last year.

About 70,000 passengers who use Charing Cross, Blackfriars and Waterloo East stations were diverted or had to get off at earlier stops. The Greater London Council estimated that about 40,000 vehicles would have used Westminster, Waterloo and Blackfriars bridges during the four hours they were closed.

Major John Quin, training officer of 33 Engineer Regiment, based at Chatham, Kent, was called in at midnight on Sunday to work on the bomb. At dawn, it was decided to drill into the casing and inject fluid to block the parts.

It took Major Quin, aged 42, who recently completed a five-month tour of duty in the Falklands, clearing Argentine bombs and mines, and Lance-Corporal Michael Rowley about 70 minutes to make the bomb safe. "It was in perfect working order inside", Major Quin said. "The Germans were very good at clockwork."

The defused bomb was put on board a police launch which took it down river. It was later detonated at the army weapons testing range at Shoeburyness, Essex.



Major John Quin and Lance-Corporal Michael Rowley who are seen (right) successfully defusing the bomb on the barge.

● The unexploded bomb which brought much of central London to a halt yesterday is a reminder of the hidden mass of armaments that still remains in Britain 38 years after the end of the Second World War, David Fawcett writes.

The Royal Engineers believe it will take a further 40 years to clear all the known bomb danger areas in the country, most of which are the sites of former Army training ranges of the last war.

But German bombs are likely to turn up in the most public of

places for even longer. Between September 7 and December 13, 1940, at the height of the blitz, German bombers dropped 13,651 tons of high explosive and 12,586 incendiary canisters on London.

While most of the unexploded devices in the capital have been detected, the Thames is thought to contain a deadly legacy of aerial weapons which failed to detonate, like yesterday's, because they fell into the soft, muddy riverbed.

The bomb yesterday was a

common 50-kilogram type

which was dropped in clusters on raids over the capital in the early years of the war. It contained a clockwork fuse still capable of detonating the explosive nearly 40 years after the weapon was manufactured.

Its defusing involved close liaison between the disposal team from 33 Engineer Regiment (Explosive Ordnance Disposal) and its headquarters in Chatham, Kent, where records of the fusing systems of thousands of standard intermediate bombs are kept.

When the type of bomb was

correctly identified its fuse as a hazardous clockwork device. Chatham dealt with 13 unexploded Second World War bombs in Britain last year and confidently expects to be kept busy by others in years to come.

Though the bomb yesterday may have made its presence known in the most public of ways, it is only 14 months since a similar bomb closed the Thames to river traffic between Southwark Bridge and Blackfriars Bridge before being defused.

Former army training ranges known the Chatham centre in remote country and coastal

areas which had previously been declared safe after being swept by engineers have now, under new techniques, disclosed some remaining weapons.

A further problem facing disposal teams is that of soil erosion. Many bombs which failed to explode are now being revealed by the effects of wind and rain. One of the type found yesterday would normally penetrate the soil between 12 and 15ft before detonating, and some of the larger bombs from the Second World War are probably still lying unexploded 60 or 70ft underground.

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Royal engagements

Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother opens the Bomber Command Museum at Hendon, 3.

The Duke of Gloucester, as Grand Prior, The Order of St John, installs the new Prior of Scotland at St Andrews and St George's Church, Edinburgh, 10.38.

The Duchess of Kent opens the Dr Jan de Winter Clinic for Cancer Prevention Advice, Brighton, 11.30; and visits the Copper Cliff Hospital, Brighton, 2.30.

New exhibitions
Lithograph by Alberto Giacometti, Museum and Art Gallery, Lichfield Street, Wallsall; Mon to Fri 10 to 6, Sat 10 to 4.45; (from today until April 30).

Photographs by Colin Baxter, Rozelle House, Rozelle Park, Ayr; Mon Sat 11 to 6, Sun 2 to 5; (from today until May 4).

Model Futures: contemporary British architecture, Institute of Contemporary Art, The Mall, SW1; Tues to Sun 12 to 9, closed Mon; (from today until May 22).

Work by Jerry Coleman, Kim Kempshall and Peter Pretsell, Timaeus Gallery, 2A Salisbury Road, Moseley, Birmingham; Mon to Fri 10 to 4, Wed 10 to 7.30, closed Sat and Sun; (until April 23).

Work by Richard Long, Arnolfini Gallery, Narrow Quay, Bristol; Tues to Sat 11 to 8, closed Sun and Mon; (until April 7).

Work by the Nicholas Treadwell Galleries in London, Museum and Art Gallery, Newport, Gwent; Mon to Fri 10 to 5.30, Sat 9.30 to 4; Sun 10 to 5, Sun 2 to 5; (until April 23).

Sporting prints lent by the British Sporting Art Trust, Leicestershire Museum and Art Gallery, New Walk, Leicester; Mon to Sat 10 to 5.30, Sun 2 to 5.30, closed Fri; (until May 8).

Paintings by Peter Phillips, Southampton Art Gallery, Civic Square, Southampton; Tues to Sat 11 to 5.30, Sun 2 to 5, closed Mon; (until May 8).

The Ring of Gathering: Prints by Gary Miller, Usher Gallery, Lichfield Road, Lichfield; Mon to Sat 10 to 5.30, Sun 2.30 to 5; (until April 24).

Cameras from the late 19th century to 1960, Folk Museum, 99-103 Westgate Street, Gloucester; Mon to Sat 10 to 5, closed Sun; (until May 14).

Early Victorian lithographs by William Richardson, Pendragon Gallery, 10 Church Street, Ilkley; Tues to Sat 10 to 5, closed Wed and Sun; (until April 20).

Prints by Bob Chaplin and Stephen Bain, Grange Art Gallery and Museum, Rottingdean, Sussex; Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Sun 2 to 5, closed Wed; (until April 24).

Paintings and watercolours by John Lobb, Carrington Hall, Lister Park, Bradford; Tues to Sun 10 to 5, closed Mon; (until April 24).

3 What's more, it's a sincere conversion (6).

4 Mother comprehends older sort of play (9).

5 Can't be a silly invention—might appear in a 19c? (11.4).

6 Giant opponents shelter under their hats (3.4).

7 Maiden over? I can change all that (8).

8 Artist not as much upset as prince (6).

9 Not a single female in this outfit (9).

10 Mound outside first three in National, so stop running (8).

11 Maiden species, mediocre in parts (4).

12 Products, say of mine, used by crew (4).

13 Medical records—but not for Dr. Watson (4.4).

14 Martial expedition for this sea-raider (6).

15 Not necessarily kept out of the limelight, however (8).

16 Little Mary's Jabberwocky tree (6).

17 Brewer & Co so poorly equipped? (3.5).

18 The way in form can provide diversion (4.4).

25 In order to get top-class fur (6).

Solution of Puzzle No. 16,100

1 He represents this member of a noble group (6).

2 Top gear, to get off US highway (8).

9 You'll find one such letter in post (8).

10 Navy had taken one from this quarter-deck (6).

11 Like our country, a hive of industry? (8).

12 One of the guard intended for Alice, for example (6).

13 Mount outside first three in National, so stop running (8).

15 Maiden species, mediocre in parts (4).

17 Products, say of mine, used by crew (4).

19 Medical records—but not for Dr. Watson (4.4).

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ACROSS

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DOWN

2 I see you are heard in record with US philosopher (8).

3 What's more, it's a sincere conversion (6).

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CONCISE CROSSWORD PAGE 10

New exhibitions

Goya's Tauromachia, the complete set of 33 etchings, National Gallery of Scotland, The Mound, Princes Street, Edinburgh; Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Sun 2 to 5; (until April 30).

Glasgow Made It, bicentenary exhibition by Glasgow Chamber of Commerce, Art Gallery and Museum, Kelvin Grove, Glasgow, Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Sun 2 to 5; (until April 4).

Model Futures: contemporary British architecture, Institute of Contemporary Art, The Mall, SW1; Tues to Sun 12 to 9, closed Mon; (from today until May 22).

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